

TRUTH IN TRAVEL

CONDÉ NAST

JULY/AUGUST 2015

Traveler



THE SUMMER ISSUE

The American West / Mallorca / South Pacific Cruising

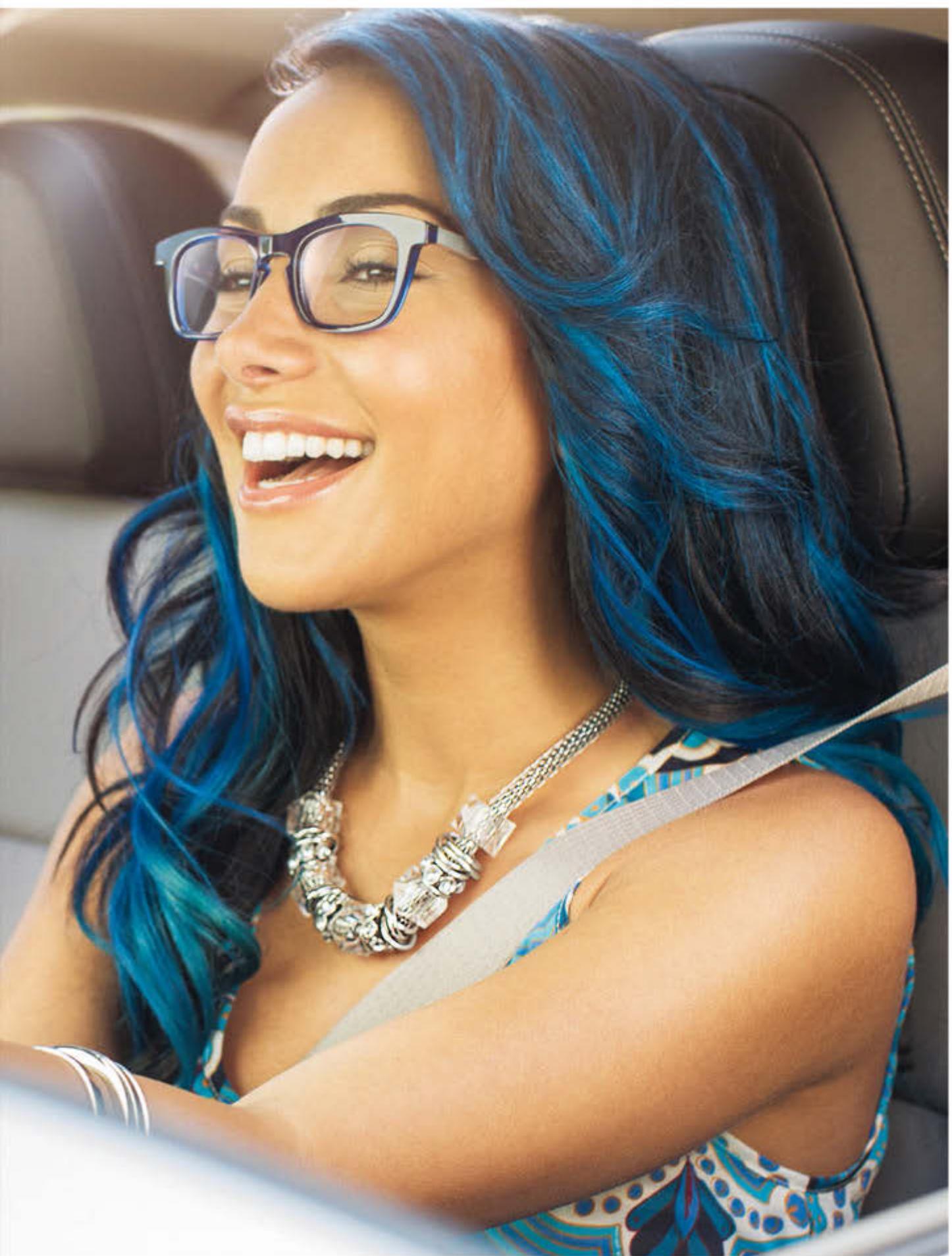


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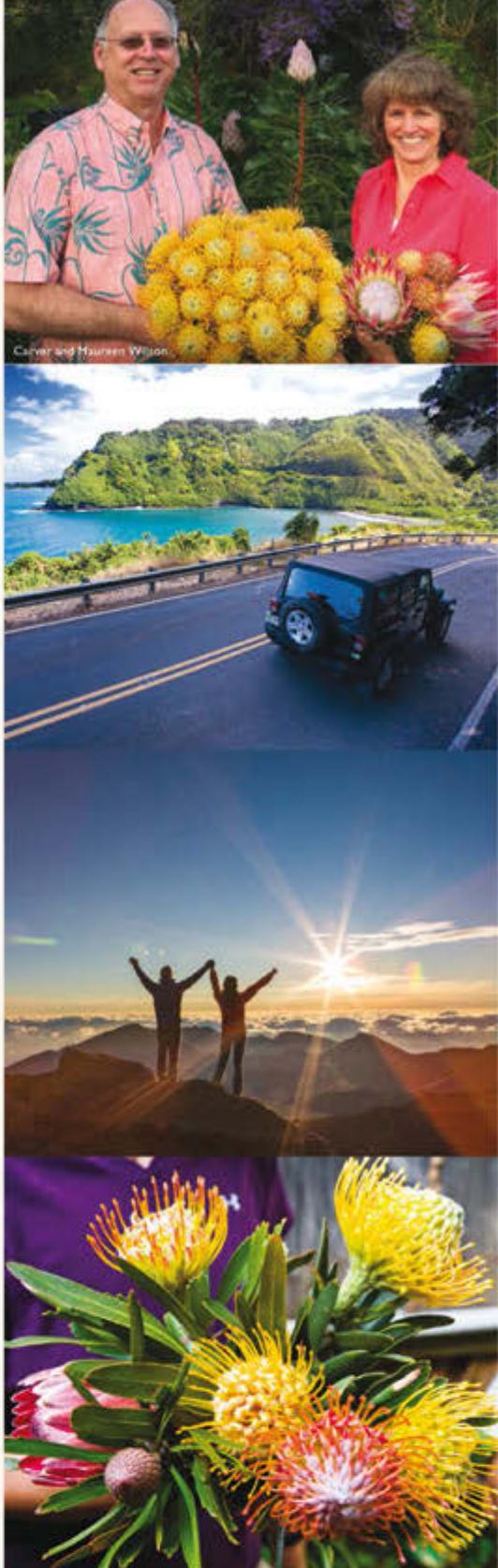
The second-largest Hawaiian Island is a relaxed paradise where beguiling natural beauty and a proud *aloha* spirit live hand in hand. Peer above the clouds from atop 10,000-foot Haleakalā, a dormant volcano. Cool off in the waterfalls along the Hāna Highway. Or lounge poolside at one of the island's many luxury resorts. Just be sure to slow down—and stop to smell the flowers. According to the owner of one of the island's foremost protea farms, Carver Wilson, this is when the magic happens.

"I was taken with the upcountry region the first time I visited with my family in the 8th grade," says Wilson. "Today, when I stand on my Maui Floral farm looking down onto the valley and across to the mountains, it's still just as majestic." But the resplendent views and rolling hills are more than just glorious to look at. The rich volcanic soil and balmy trade winds create the ideal environment for growing some of the world's most exotic tropical flowers. "There are so many different floral species on Maui, but the protea that we grow here are simply amazing," says Wilson. "We have created rare hybrid varieties that are world-famous."

The abundance of Maui's captivating flora is mirrored by the island's endless outdoor activities. "I enjoy going out to Ho'okipa to watch the windsurfers," says Wilson. "Swimming in the morning, strolling at sunset, and relaxing in between is a wonderful way to experience Maui."

When you're not farm hopping or playing in the Pacific, Wilson offers some additional advice. "Don't spend a lot of time in the car," he says. "Maui has so much to offer, from rainforests to mountains to beaches. While Maui has iconic must-see spots, many of the best places are small and waiting to be explored."

Given Wilson's love for Maui's carefree lifestyle and lush surroundings, it's no surprise that he's found happiness in his gardens. "When I started Maui Floral, I thought I would sell it after a few years. But 40 years later, my life is still all smiles. And flowers."



The
HAWAIIAN
ISLANDS

Kaua'i • O'ahu • Moloka'i • Lāna'i • Maui • Hawai'i

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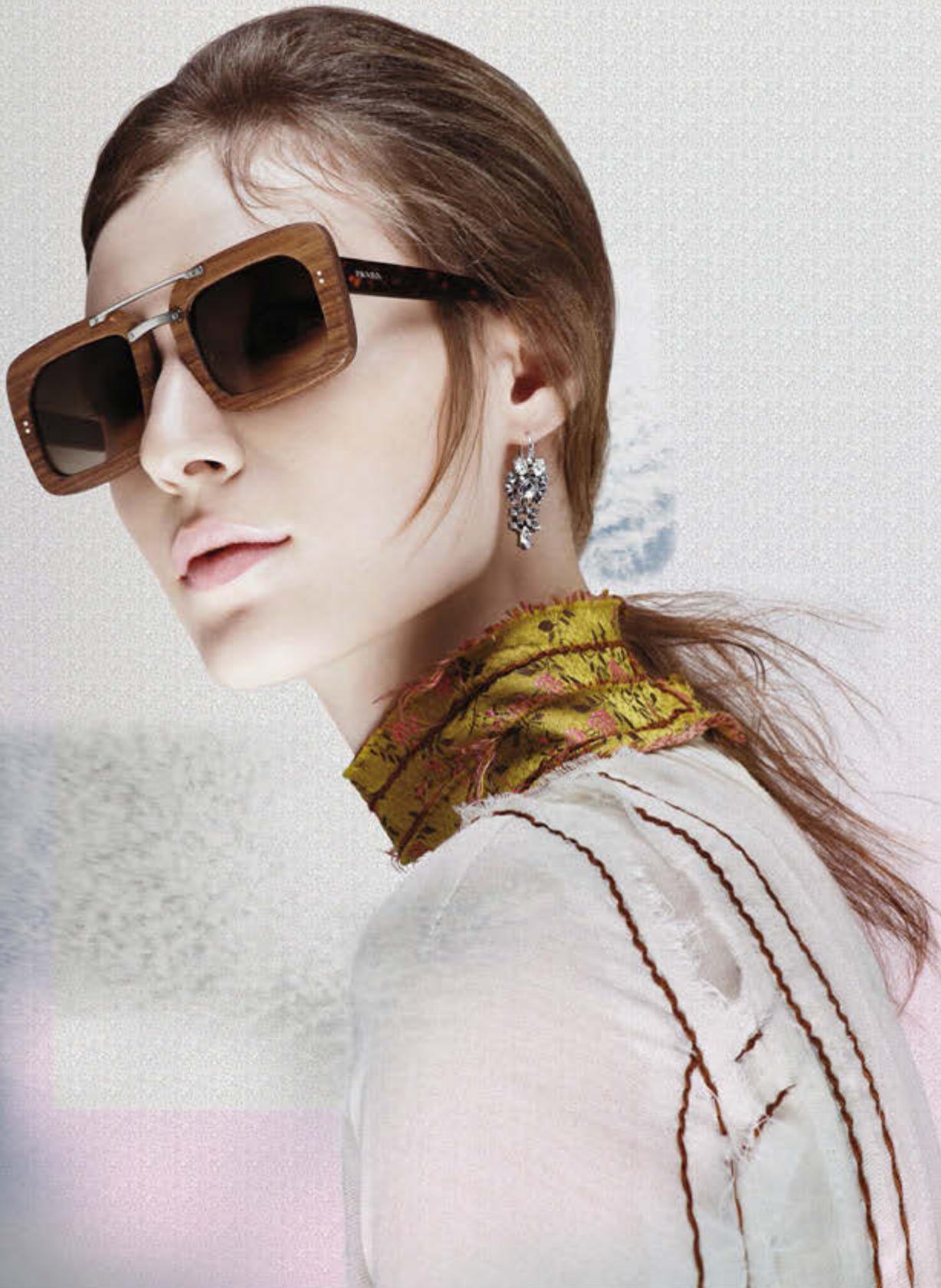
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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALEXIS SILVAGNI; AMBROISE TENEZAS; KEITH KING; CHRISTOPHER GRIFFITHS

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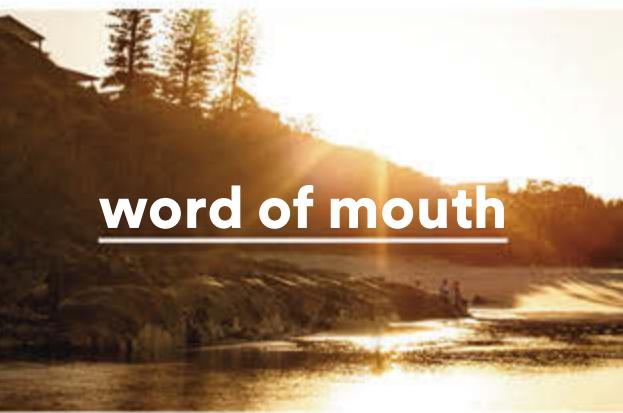
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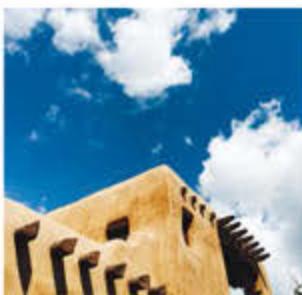


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Cover photograph by Dewey Nicks. Eres swimsuit (net-a-porter.com; \$290); Helen Kaminski hat (helenkaminski.com; \$120); Hermès bracelet and Cape Cod watch (hermes.com; \$620 and \$2,975); Cartier bracelet (cartier.us; \$6,300). Styled by Maggie Mann. Hair by Christian Marc. Makeup by Joe Strettel. Model: Kate Bock at Elite New York City.



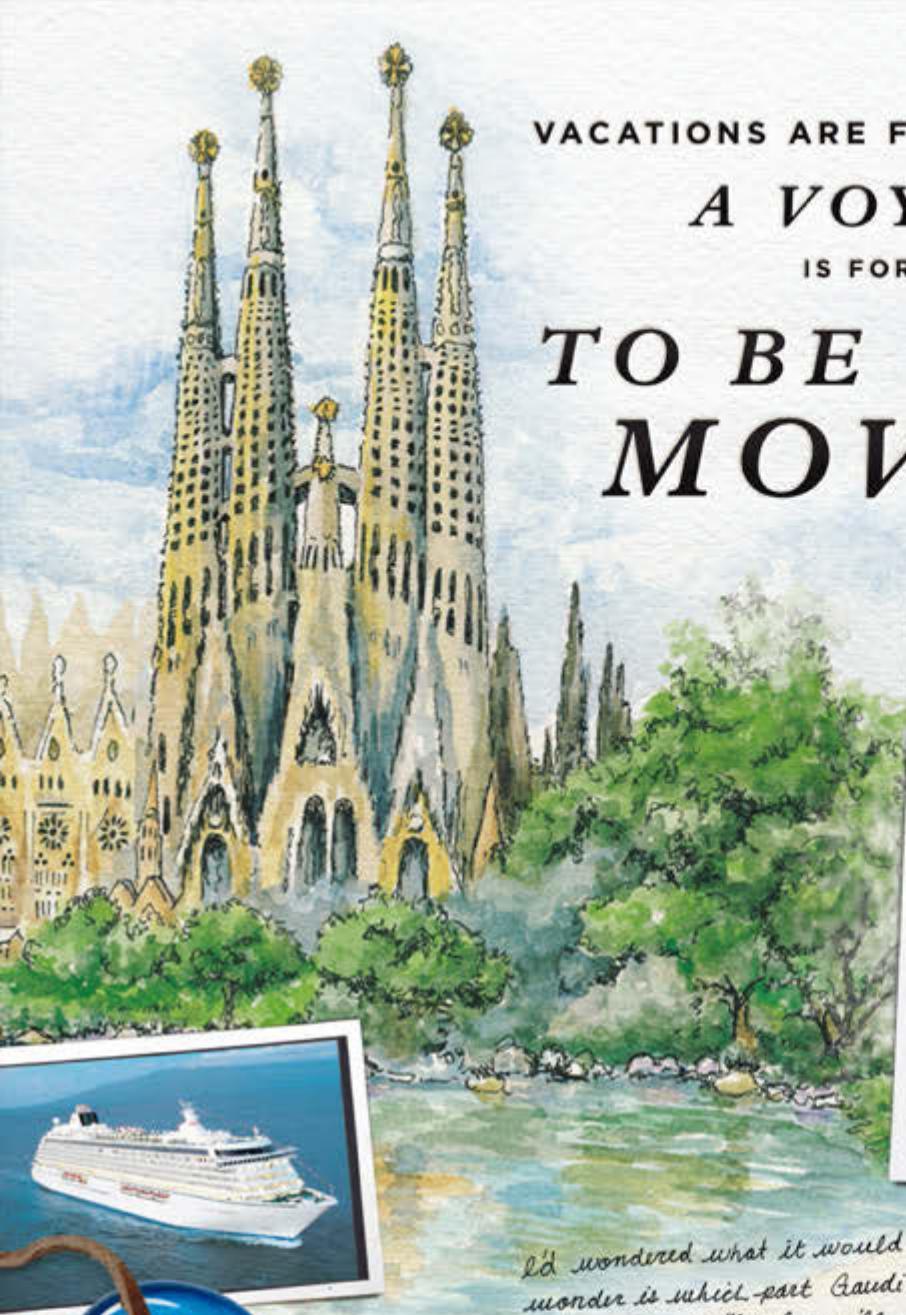
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#FamilyTravel
For tips on how to travel with kids, follow our family adventures at pinterest.com/cntraveler.



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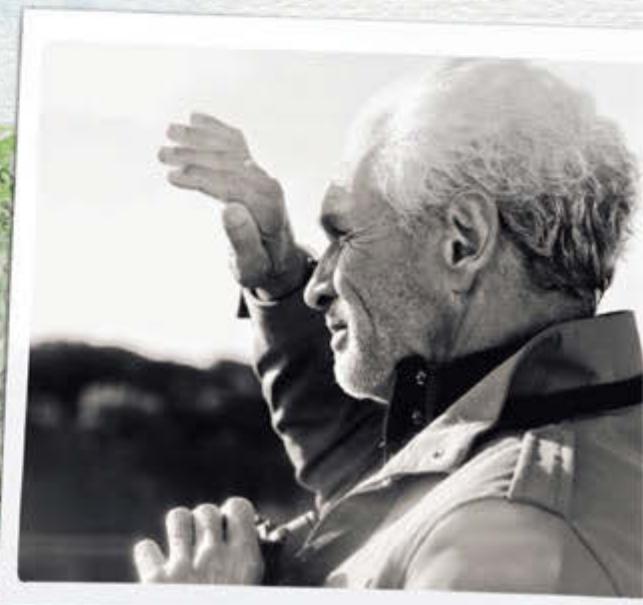


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I'd wondered what it would be like to see La Sagrada Família. Now all I wonder is which part Gaudi imagined first. The architecture? Design? Engineering? Maybe we'll admire all of the above until we get hungry. Or thirsty. Tonight's menu in the Vintage Room is paired with 8 vintage wines, with a few Spanish classics chosen by the Head Sommelier himself. My palate can't wait to be refined.



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Souvenir Does anything say America, or summer, more than these pressed pennies?

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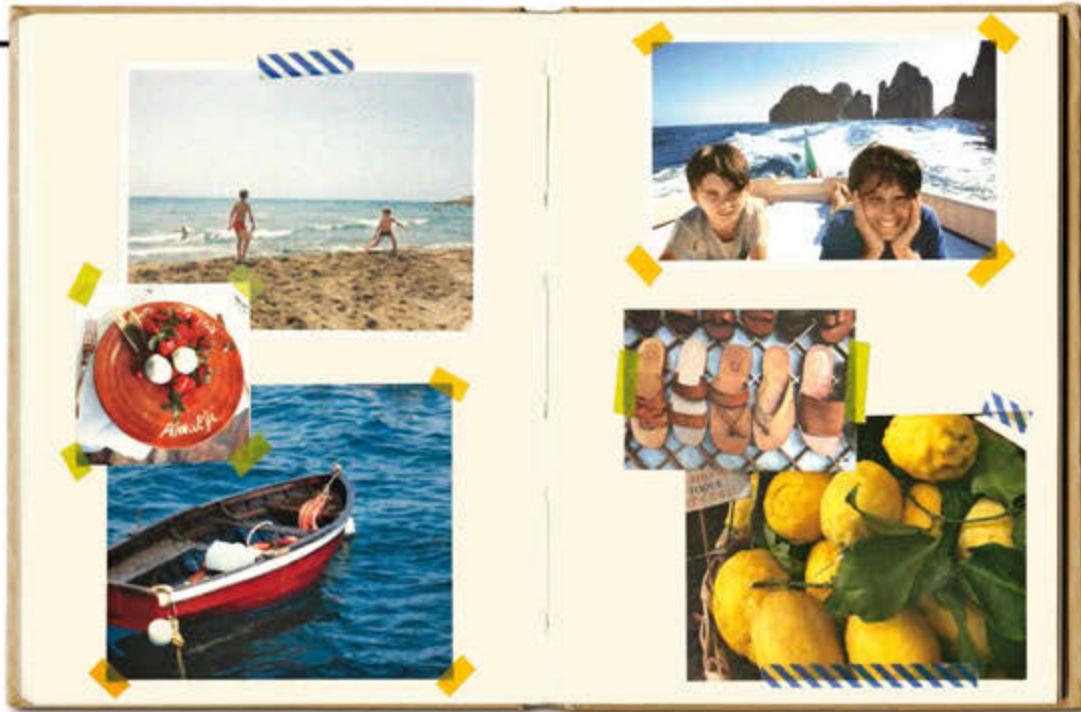
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Some personal photos from a family trip to the Amalfi Coast and Sicily.

A Matter of Perspective

I SPENT most of the summer between my junior and senior years of college with my cheek pressed up against the window of an Italian train. Venice to Verona, Verona to Bologna, Bologna to Assisi, Assisi to Arezzo—on I went, the trip concluding in my mom's hometown of Pesaro in Le Marche to visit my loving yet imperious uncle, whose impatience was a sobering antidote to my self-pity. I was 21 and had just come off a semester-long fine arts program in Florence, which was followed by a tearful breakup with a longtime boyfriend an ocean and a continent away.

I've often thought that my Eurail pass saved me during that stretch of sleepless nights I spent sweating in different airless no-star *pensioni*, replaying what at the time felt like the end of the world. Come morning I'd decide on a new destination and catnap for half of even a short ride, lulled alternately by the muscular strut of a regional locomotive and the white noise of a longer-distance high-speed train.

But in between, I witnessed “a day in the life” 40 times over across northern Italy. There is something about the collective quotidian as seen in rapid

succession—from a group of university students in Bologna loudly debating one day to the glacial lowering of a trattoria awning by a limping octogenarian in a one-*tabacchi* hill town the next—that recasts personal drama in an appropriately undramatic light. My full immersion was the unwitting by-product of solo travel. You are simply bolder when you are alone, infinitely more receptive to conversation, coffee, and even dinner with strangers. Though I'd spent five months living and studying in Florence—during which I uttered barely a syllable of English, except on calls home—only three weeks into my travels I dreamt for the first time in Italian.

The suspension of disbelief about where you come from isn't the sole provenance of a college junior with a cello concerto looping in her head, however. In “Summer Fling” (page 88), Emma Straub and Liana Pai dip into a much-mythologized kind of Mediterranean summer holiday that most American families never even consider. Straub goes to research a novel in which an American family vacations in Mallorca. Pai—and her family, who serve as muses and photo subjects—forgo their

weekends in Woodstock, Fire Island, and the Hamptons to live like Europeans do in August—a novelty for most Americans, who usually keep their long-standing ocean and lakeside traditions closer to home.

For Pai, the decision to spend summers in Europe began as a desire to broaden her children's cultural horizons. “I love watching the girls make connections with people from different countries, unafraid of being misunderstood,” says Pai. But after a couple of years, she realized that the real impetus was much more primal than that. “With each trip we become closer as a family,” she explains. “Our daughters, Ima and Mica, who rely on each other as constant playmates, got to share in the excitement of discovering things in a foreign country.”

Sometimes, it turns out, you have to travel a long distance to find your way back home.

Pilar Guzmán, Editor in Chief

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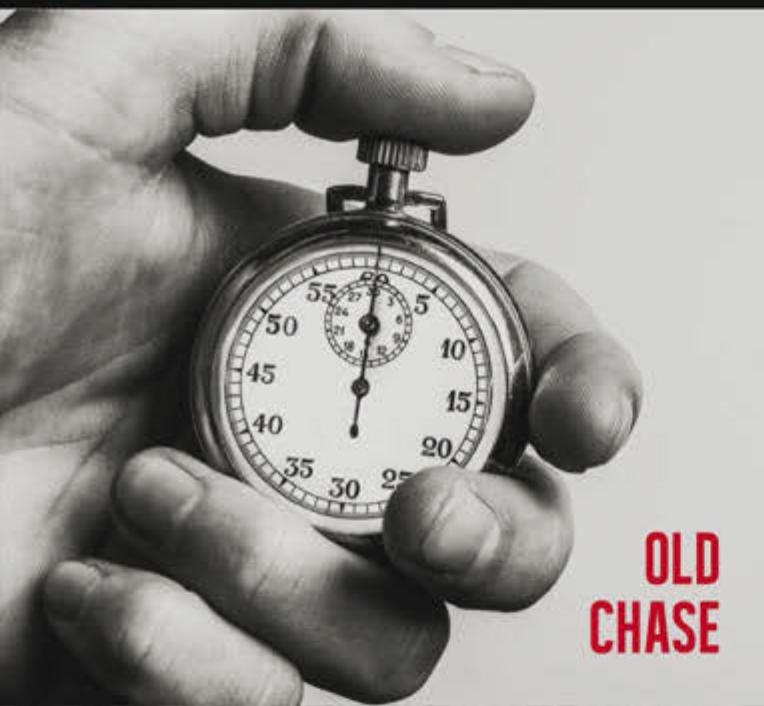
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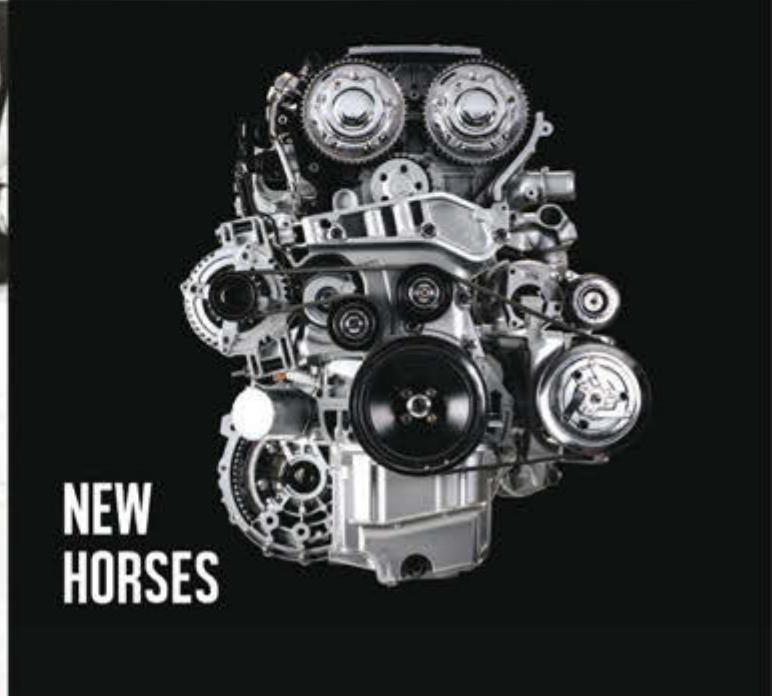
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We know that travel planning, while often the most exciting part of the trip, can also be the most daunting. So consider this your personal hotline: We've enlisted the expertise of our editors and specialists to tackle your vacation wish list and conundrums.

ECUADOR

► “I’m looking for off-the-beaten-path South America,” says Ivonne Snavely of Fort Lauderdale.

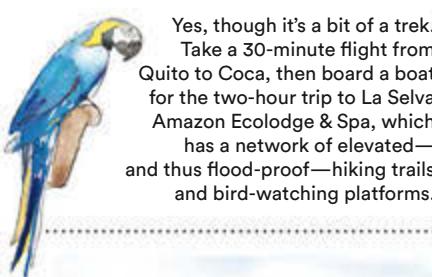


Think Ecuador: It has all the Andean peaks and Amazonian jungles of Peru, but half the tourists. Start in Quito—its well-preserved old town is the ideal entry point for adventures outside the city.

► “What kind of adventures, exactly?”

Ecuador doesn’t have postcard-perfect beaches, but it does have seventeenth-century lodges like Hacienda Zuleta, a 4,000-acre working farm two hours north of Quito where you can mountain bike, hike, and ride horses.

► “Can we see the rain forest?”



Yes, though it’s a bit of a trek. Take a 30-minute flight from Quito to Coca, then board a boat for the two-hour trip to La Selva Amazon Ecolodge & Spa, which has a network of elevated—and thus flood-proof—hiking trails and bird-watching platforms.

► There’s more to see in Ecuador than just the Galápagos, and the country is relatively easy to visit (the official currency is the U.S. dollar, and nonstop flights are available from Atlanta, Houston, Miami, and New York). We use travel planner Eric Sheets of Latin Excursions because he can secure rooms at small (and often sold-out) lodges.

The travel specialists mentioned above have customized itineraries to Ecuador and Italy—and if you’re one of the first ten readers to book a trip, you’ll receive a ten percent discount. Visit editorsitinerary.cntraveler.com for more on how to get going.

CALIFORNIA

► “We want the definitive West Coast road trip. Where should we go?” asks Ella Basic of Barrie, Ontario.



Start in Portland, Oregon, and come hungry. Hit Pizza Maria (for wood-fired pies), Roe (the city’s best seafood), and Little Bird Bistro (with a Pacific Northwest meets Paris menu), then head to California’s scenic Highway 1.

► “Which parks should we visit along the way?”



If you only do one, make it Humboldt Redwoods State Park. Its 32-mile Avenue of the Giants wends through California’s largest forest of these towering trees.

► “Where should we stay?”

The Inn at Newport Ranch opens this summer on a working cattle farm about 20 miles north of Mendocino. Seventy-five miles south, you’ll find Sea Ranch, a community suspended in a utopian 1960s dream state—the local 19-room lodge just underwent a subtle renovation.



► The National Park Service is promoting its star attractions in the run-up to its one-hundredth birthday in 2016, so prepare for more road-tripping on Highways 1 and 101 this summer. And book your hotel rooms now: Properties along this route tend to be small, and since this is high season, they’ll definitely fill up fast.

ITALY

► “What’s the best way to enjoy the Amalfi Coast?” asks Allen Ginsberg of Atlanta.



Combine a few nights in a town like Amalfi with a trip to Pompeii and a couple of days in Naples, Italy’s third-largest city, where you can visit Baroque cathedrals and family-owned clothing ateliers.

► “What should we put at the top of our to-do list?”

Take your iPhone to the hilly, five-mile Path of the Gods trail out of Nocelle, which offers panoramic views of Italy so stunning, they almost look fake. From Sorrento, hop a ferry to Capri in the evening, after the day-trippers have returned to the mainland.

► “Any favorite hotels?”



We love the cliffside infinity pool at the 20-room Monastero Santa Rosa, a former monastery on the Amalfi Coast. In Naples, the Grand Hotel Parker’s has sea views and worth-flying-for Negronis.



► To make the most of the region in the peak summer season, contact travel specialists Brian Dore and Maria Gabriella Landers of Concierge in Umbria, who can arrange private guides: You’ll not only bypass crowds but can take cooking classes that don’t feel like a tourist activity and be introduced to tailors the locals use.

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Australia, 1961

In the early '60s, Elliott Erwitt was hired to shoot a campaign for the Australian tourism board. His only brief, as he remembers it, was to explore the country without agenda or direction, snapping whatever caught his eye. Such latitude and creative freedom were (and are) rarely granted to any photographer, but Erwitt was hardly any photographer. Already a member of the prestigious Magnum photo agency (Robert Capa had invited him to join in 1953), he was renowned for his groundbreaking black-and-white documentary work. Today, 86 years old and the author of nearly 30 books, Erwitt is celebrated as much for his recently rediscovered color images (the one above is from his 2013 book, *Kolor*) as he is for his iconic portraits of world leaders and his provocative, and often funny, personal work. And he's not done traveling yet. "I've been to most places," says Erwitt, who hopes to revisit Cuba this summer for the first time since 1964. "But I haven't been to Bali." —Kate Cunningham

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Photos (left to right):
Cruising near Hubbard Glacier, Alaska.
Venice, Italy.
Verandah Suite.
Pinnacle Grill dining room.

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we can't stop talking about.*

26

The best way to see the
Philippines' remotest islands.

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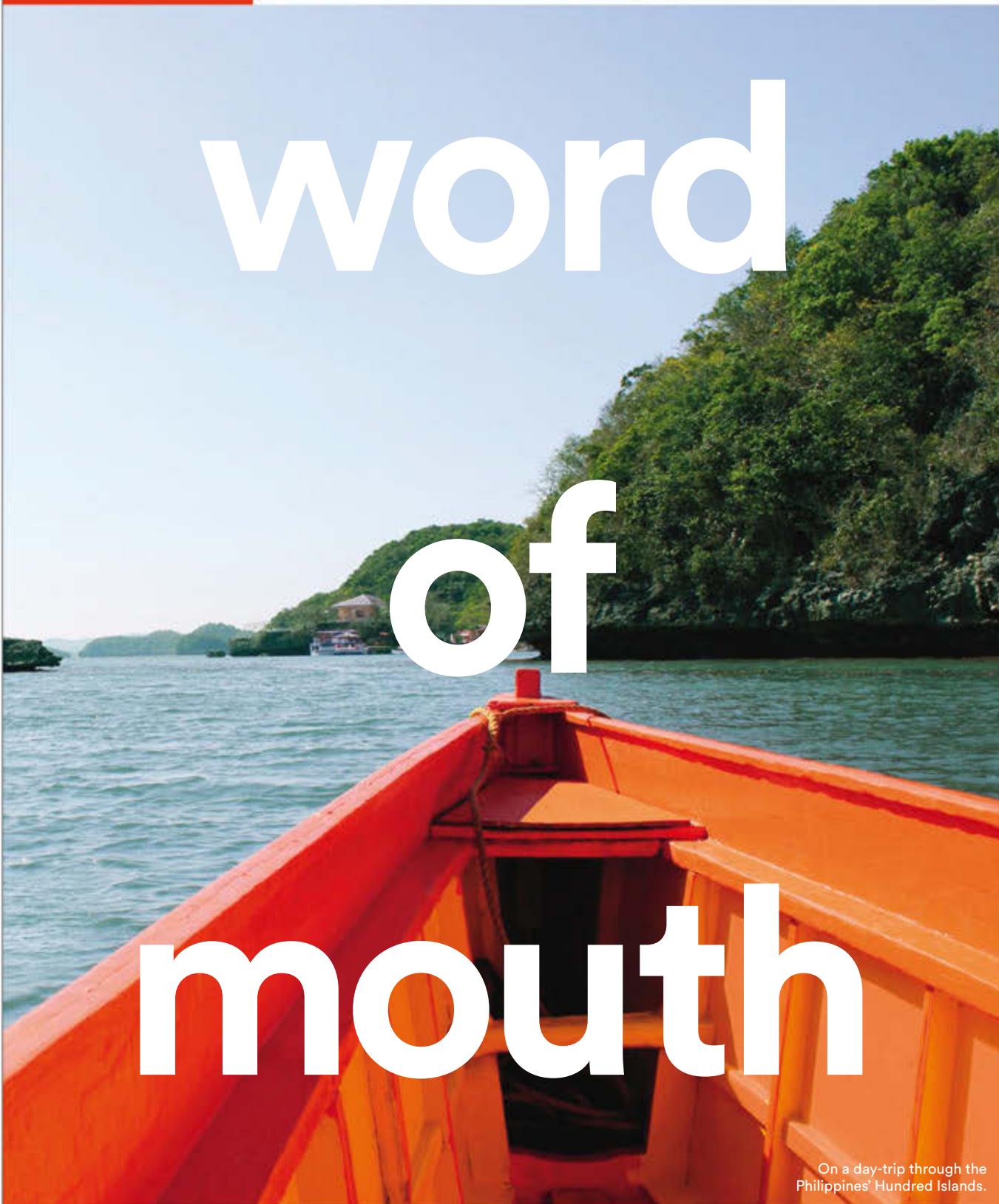
A road trip, in Spades. Kate
and Andy take us on a ride.

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Australians' best-kept
surfside secret.

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The can't-miss insider's
guide to Toronto.



word of mouth

On a day-trip through the
Philippines' Hundred Islands.

After the Med and the Caribbean, what's next? An island-hopping voyage through the Philippines, suggests Lindsay Talbot, who heads east to explore the next great cruising destination.

The Emerald Archipelago



The pastel-pink facade of Villa Escudero, a colonial coconut plantation in southern Manila.

THIS PAST winter, my 70-year-old aunt and I flew from New York to Hong Kong and headed south for the Philippines. The 7,107-island chain has long been overlooked by American travelers, but I was enticed by its mix of historic cities and empty emerald keys. Most of all, I wanted to visit Coron, an undeveloped tropical sliver of Palawan, an island and its adjacent islets that stretches between the Sulu and South China seas and calls itself “the last frontier.” (Palawan is, in fact, having a moment: Last year, it was ranked the number one island in the world in *Condé Nast Traveler*’s Readers’ Choice Awards.) Palawan’s most

pristine islands are accessible only by boat—there are hardly any hotels—but how to get there? The 650-foot-long *Seabourn Sojourn*, which was just small enough to fit into shallow ports and to reach remote isthmuses, was an ideal choice.

Growing up, I had been on more than a dozen cruises, but those were mostly on gleaming-white mega-ships through the Caribbean and the Panama Canal, complete with midnight buffets, lido decks with putting greens and amusement park-worthy water slides. Still, I’d come to appreciate the ease of traveling by ocean liner. I loved the rush

and frenetic zip that come with being in a state of constant embarkation: the daily port of call, the bustle of shore excursions, the catharsis of returning to the cool confines of the ship after a day ashore, and the thrill of setting off for yet another place at each day’s end.

But once I climbed aboard the *Seabourn Sojourn* for 11 days of its two-week, nine-stop sail, I entered the world of small-ship cruises. There were only 458 passengers (many of them chic septuagenarians from the Cotswolds who spent their entire winters on board), rows of empty deck chairs, and memorable food (the company recently teamed up with

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Michelin-starred chef Thomas Keller).

The result was a trip that took me to places I'd never expected: into archipelagos of tiny islands, empty grottoes surrounded by chocolate-colored hills; through seas in shades of blue so unreal that they could've been stolen from screen savers; and into the stygian darkness of the world's longest

subterranean river, past cathedral-like caverns dripping with millennia-old stalagmites. Above all, it was a trip full of surprises. "The thrill is in the voyage itself," my aunt said to me as we climbed on board. "It's a sufficient joy just to be afloat." What we actually saw, though, was so much grander than we could've hoped.

PORT 1: HUNDRED ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

After setting sail from Hong Kong, I awoke to find the sea studded with 123 islands (or, at low tide, 124), all of different sizes but each shaped like a portobello mushroom: little stems of limestone rock topped with caps of thick green shrubbery. Apart from the occasional thatched hut selling coconuts or *buko* shakes, the archipelago (declared a national park in 1940) was uninhabited; it was as if I'd wandered into the tropical world of Mario Brothers' Mushroom Kingdom. Traveling by outrigger, I hopped to a dozen islands, snorkeling reefs where taklobo, the world's biggest bivalve mollusks, hid in neon purple and yellow shells.



1

1 A horse-drawn *kalesa* at Fort Santiago—the fortress is part of the structure of Manila's old walled city.



2

2 The volcanic grotto known as Willy's Rock, at White Beach in Boracay.

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CRUISE
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1

1 A limestone cliff juts over teal-blue waters outside the Twin Lagoons in Coron.



2

2 Guitarists play a traditional welcome song on Boracay Island.

skimming over aquamarine waters with currents of electric turquoise.

PORT 4: CORON

The approach to the Calamanian isle of Coron was like entering an empyreal land of jade-green lagoons and colossal limestone cliffs. I was surrounded by bosky little sierras that had almost no trace of human development—just a few nipa palm houses tucked into jungle-like hills, which are still inhabited by members of the Tagbanua tribe (who arrived on the island nearly 500 years ago). We took a balangay to Siete Pecados, an aquarium-like coral reef with clown fish, sea horses, snapper, lionfish—and a view of the seven sunken Japanese warships that lie off Coron Bay. Next, it was off for a swim in the majestic Twin Lagoons. With each stroke, the temperature shifted from warm to cool—a sensation created by the mingling of salt currents and freshwater. It was as sublime as I had hoped—and, without a doubt, the highlight of the trip.

PORT 2: MANILA

As the ship approached Manila Bay, I saw the outline of a skyscrapered metropolis—a stark contrast to the otherworldly isles I'd left behind. In town, I convinced a jeepney driver to head out to Villa Escudero, a coconut plantation dating to the 1880s. The two-hour ride took me past terraced rice paddies punctuated with buffalo, fruit orchards, and highlands overlooking Taal Lake's volcanic caldera. A second day in port was just enough time to explore Old Manila, including the 1930s Art Deco houses on San Rafael Street, the Spanish colonial walled city of Intramuros (Manila was under Spanish rule until 1898), and the sixteenth-century San Agustin Church.

PORT 3: BORACAY

On a rickshaw ride through the village's strip of bamboo shacks, I quickly realized that Boracay, once considered the most beautiful beach in the world, had gone the way of Phuket and southern Bali. Its famous three-mile White Beach, where volcanic grottoes are surrounded by azure waters, was still surreally picturesque—but the island teemed with tourist-filled cafés and trinket shops. So my aunt and I chartered a blue-sailed paraw for the day and set off in search of the island's more remote corners—like Puka Beach, a secluded cove whose flour-like sand is actually composed of snail shells. Dangling over the bow of the boat, we circled the entire island,

PORT 5: PUERTO PRINCESA

After a banca boat ride to Palawan's northern shore, we canoed into the Puerto Princesa Subterranean River, which, along with Halong Bay and Komodo Island, is one of the Seven New Wonders of the World. Then it was off to the City Public Market, with vendors selling spices and rice, magenta-pink eggs, and spiky fruits like rambutans and durians, and back on board for the sail to Malaysia (our point of disembarkation, though the itinerary continued down to Singapore). As a cotton candy-pink sunset fell over Honda Bay, my aunt said, "I would have been happy with just the immensity of the sea and sky." ♦

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BLACK TIE NOT OPTIONAL

Clockwise from top: Valextra Costa luggage (valextra.com; \$7,500); Hermès tuxedo and cuff links (hermes.com; \$7,050 and \$530); Montblanc Meisterstück Classique ballpoint (montblanc.com; \$420); Smythson Fashion Diary (smythson.com; \$320); Bottega Veneta small suitcase (800-845-6790; price upon request); Hermès shirt and bow tie and cummerbund set (hermes.com; \$710 and \$465); Vacheron Constantin Traditionnelle Small Seconds watch (vacheron-constantin.com; \$32,500); Salvatore Ferragamo silk handkerchief (Salvatore Ferragamo boutiques nationwide; \$140); Rocco Round XL Ottoman (mgbwhome.com; \$3,820).

The Captain's Table

It's time to get on board with black tie attire now that many of today's cruises are taking a cue from an era when men and women dressed for dinner.



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HIGH ROLLERS

Clockwise from top left: **Herend** Golden Edge coaster (herendusa.com; \$20); **Dior Fine Jewelry** Miss Dior ring (select Dior boutiques nationwide; price upon request); **Van Cleef & Arpels** Irene earrings (vancleefarpels.com; price upon request); **Chanel Fine Jewelry** Panache necklace (Chanel Fine Jewelry boutiques nationwide; price upon request); **YSL** Rouge Volupté Shine No. 21 Red in Sunlight (yslbeautyus.com; \$36); **Bottega Veneta** Oro Intrecciato Metal Knot clutch (800-845-6790; \$3,300); **Bulgari** Serpenti Jewelry Watch (Bulgari boutiques nationwide; price upon request).

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PRETTY IN PINK

Clockwise from top left: Valextra Costa luggage (valextra.com; \$7,500); **Fendi** Organza dress with fox fur detail (fendi.com; \$6,800); **Pomellato** One of a Kind Pom Pom ring (pomellato.com; price upon request); **Bottega Veneta** Naturale oxidized zircon necklace (800-845-6790; \$2,200); **Charing Cross** small travel log (sterlingandburke.com; \$35); **Bulgari** Serpenti Hypnotic box clutch in gold python (Bulgari boutiques nationwide; \$5,450); **Cartier** La Panthère eau de parfum (cartier.us; \$76); **Paul Andrew** Soirée evening sandal (exclusively for Lane Crawford, Hong Kong; \$1,995).



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CONNECTIVITY THAT LEAVES ALL OTHER INTERNET IN ITS WAKE

From humble brags to wanderlust hashtags, the Internet has changed how and why we travel. If you don't share, then you weren't there. And these days, it all has to be instant. But if you've ever set out to sea, you know that cruise ship internet speeds can feel like you're back in the days of dialup. Enter a radical change of pace from Royal Caribbean: Voom, by far the fastest Internet in the cruise industry.

Check out these four ways it will revolutionize selfies, streaming and sharing at sea.

1 **Skype your adventures to family and friends back home.**

Make everyone feel like they're right there with you on your latest adventures. Voom is the only Internet at sea that supports live video chat and streaming, so they can watch the action as it happens — like when your kids conquer the rock wall.

2 **Stream a movie while relaxing on the pool deck.**

If you want to catch the latest episode of that must-see show on Hulu or chill with the family enjoying YouTube in your stateroom, Royal Caribbean's Voom is the only Internet capable of delivering instant streaming video in crystal clear quality.

3 **Share a selfie from the North Star observation capsule.**

Strike a pose 300 feet in the air, or record your very first drink made by a robot at Bionic Bar. Then post it for all your friends to see. You can even upload entire albums to Facebook in a flash. Warning: you might break your "likes" record.

4 **Email, text, snap, and tweet at sea.**

Keep in touch in real time with no lag. Make a quick check-in with work, post that pic of the kids on the FlowRider, share your favorite moments on Instagram, and shoot off a hilarious tweet without missing a beat. #ThatWasFast.



HOW IT WORKS

Royal Caribbean's Voom Internet uses new satellites that orbit much closer to Earth. The satellites beam straight to the ship as you sail to your next port, giving you speed and bandwidth that exceeds the capacity of all other cruise ships combined. That means you can share at the same time as everyone else onboard and still never get jammed up — because traffic has no place on your vacation.



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Andy Spade's Freewheeling Guide to America

How does New York's consummate prepster-with-quirk teach his daughter about the joys of the great open road? By heading west and embracing his camera-happy inner tourist.

NAPA VALLEY is the ideal anti-city summer escape (no gridlock, big sky, plenty of wine). Which is why the Spades—Kate and Andy and their ten-year-old daughter, Bea—have been coming here every summer for a decade. But last year, the founders of fashion brands Kate Spade and Jack Spade wanted to explore even more of America and, as Manhattanites who almost never drive, “show our kid what it’s like to really ride in a car,” says Andy, who also co-founded Sleepy Jones. So they asked

their friends Matthew and Irene Chen-Grenby, of accessories line Parker Thatch, to join them and—along with their two children—hit the road. The journey took three kids and four adults across 1,400 miles (California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Nevada), documented in thousands of photos on Andy’s iPhone. “I made everyone stop all the time so I could take as many pictures as possible,” he says. “It drove my wife crazy.” Below, what else he learned behind the wheel. —Howie Kahn

DRIVE. THEN DRINK

“I came to the Grand Canyon as a kid in the '70s. I don't remember there being a paved parking lot and railings. I was with a troop of Boy Scouts carrying canteens.”

This time we had an air-conditioned car and a cooler with snacks and cocktail fixings for the adults. Kate likes a vodka Southside with lemonade, simple syrup, and muddled mint.”



KNOW YOUR DRIVING LIMITATIONS

“We had hoped to get an SUV to pull an Airstream, but the girls chickened out and we didn't want to drag it along just for the heck of it. We talked about a Winnebago, but everyone was afraid to drive it. So we settled on the biggest SUV we could find. We had dreams of campfires and tents, but we'll do that on the next trip. Instead, this one became about staying in really nice places along the way. It's a little embarrassing, but it's true.”



GET OUT OF THE CAR

“This is outside Santa Fe. I think the kids were amazed by all the space. We'd stop and they'd run around. They got out to go to the bathroom by a tree right around here, and this screaming woman came out and scared the hell out of them.”



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EMBRACE THE UNEXPECTED VACANCY

"This is Pfeiffer Beach, near Big Sur. We wanted to stay at the Post Ranch Inn, but they don't take kids. When we got to the Ventana Inn & Spa, we found out it's clothing-optional by the pool. But it's really nice, there were no vacancies anywhere else, and we'd just driven eight hours. We were like, 'You've gotta take us.' We stayed for one night and had to shut the curtains so the kids didn't see any naked people."



LEAN INTO THE CAMP

"The Cabazon Dinosaurs, outside Palm Springs, were in Pee-wee's Big Adventure. The kids loved them, and we learned that with kids you need stops: You can't be in the

car for more than four hours at a time, and you can't sing '100 Bottles of Beer on the Wall' with kids that young—the song doesn't work if it's about seltzer or Kool-Aid, either."

KNOW THAT YOU WON'T GET TO EVERYTHING

"We stayed at the Ace in Palm Springs one night. We were close to Joshua Tree and I wanted to take pictures at sundown, but everyone was sick of being in the

car, so we didn't go. I was really upset. That's one thing I wanted to do that didn't happen. It makes me think I have to redo the entire trip."



GO AHEAD, GET NOSTALGIC

"Ventura, California's WaveFront Surf Shop has these two kinds of boards I used to ride as a kid, an Alva and a Babne. I competed around the West Coast from ages 13 through 18. It was a big part of my life and really influenced my style."



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ADVENTURES FOR ALL

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- 3. Paddle-boarding over glassy water and vibrant coral reefs**
- 4. Mountain biking through Southlands' banyan trees**
- 5. Riding a moped around candy-colored St. George's**
- 6. Kayaking and seabird spotting around Nonsuch Island**
- 7. Sport-fishing for prized blue marlin, tuna, and wahoo**
- 8. Shipwreck diving in the Bermuda Triangle**
- 9. Horseback riding on beach trails along Warwick Long Bay's dunes and coves**
- 10. Sailing in picturesque Hamilton Harbor**
- 11. Powering around the island's hidden beaches via speedboat**



AS AN EXTREME-SPORTS photographer, Jimmy Chin has visited some of the most awe-inspiring places on the entire planet. Bermuda is no exception. From kicking up sea spray on a high-powered watercraft and kiteboarding at Elbow Beach to zipping around the islands' winding roads on a moped and launching off towering rocks into turquoise waters, Chin proves that Bermuda offers more than its secluded pink-sand beaches, warm-hearted people, and even warmer afternoons spent sipping rum swizzles. Although, Chin admits, a sunset paddle-boarding session and perfectly chilled swizzle hit the spot too.



“

KITEBOARDING AT SUNRISE,
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MELS, AND CLIFF JUMPING
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THE 2017 AMERICA'S CUP

Bermuda gets the nod to host the globe's most prestigious sailing competition.

As the world's top sailors descend upon Bermuda to train for the 35th America's Cup in June 2017, the island's lively vibe is being catapulted into the international spotlight.

Composed of 181 islands and renowned for its crystalline waters and pink sands, Bermuda's Great Sound will form a magnificent natural amphitheater for the course. The all-new America's Cup Village will offer festive fare, live entertainment, and serve as the perfect home base for hard-core fans and newbie spectators alike.

But you don't have to wait until 2017 to experience the thrill of competition. Bermuda kicks off the excitement with the World Series event October 16–18, 2015. Come and watch as teams begin competing for a coveted spot in the next America's Cup.

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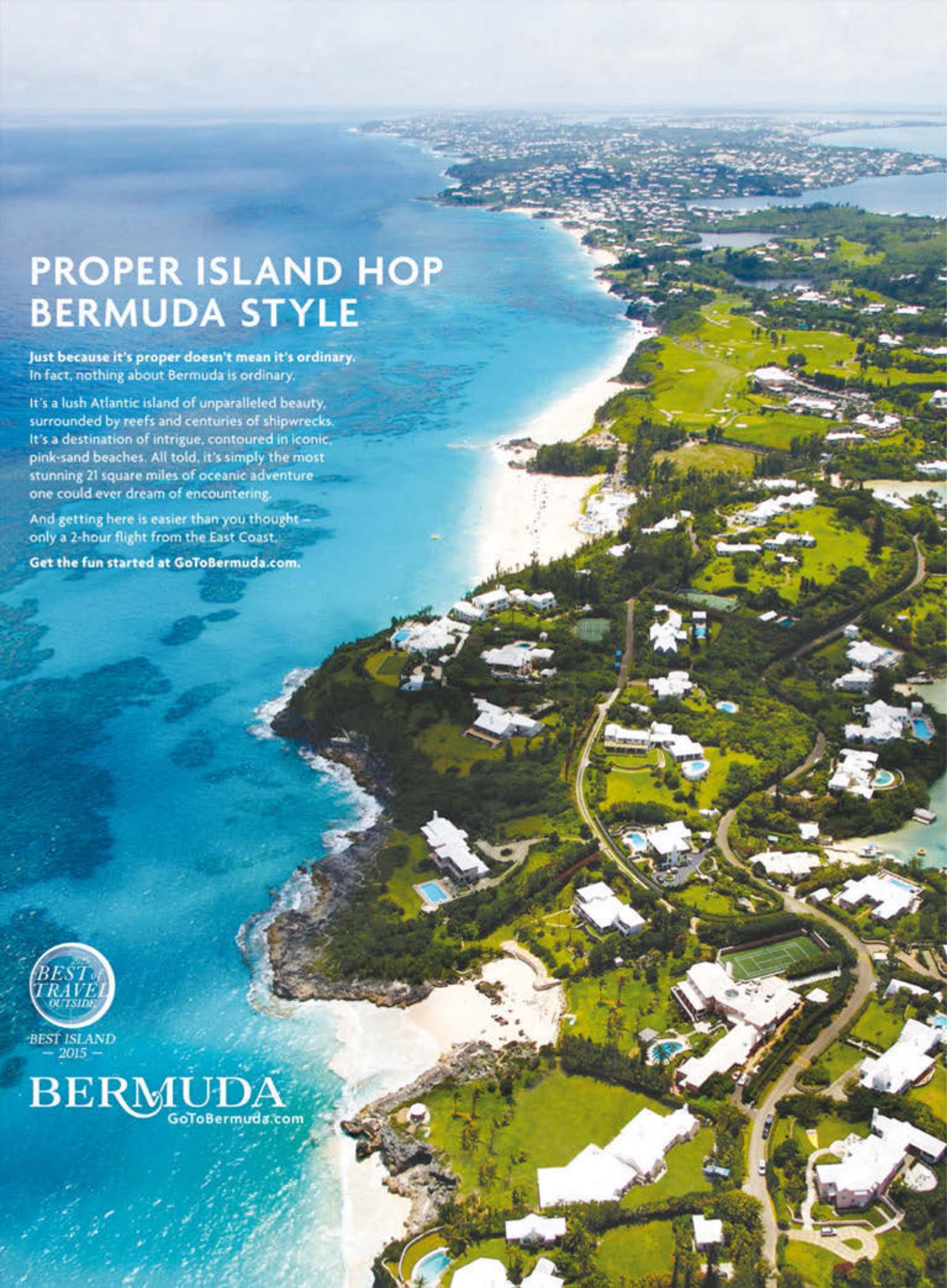
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The bright and airy lobby of Halcyon House, in Australia's seaside town of Cabarita Beach.

Halcyon Days

A refreshing antidote to the hard-edged beach resort, Australia's newest boutique hotel finds that elusive sweet spot between nostalgia and the now.



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[†]Source: The NPD Group, Inc. / BeautyTrends®, U.S. Prestige Skincare Retail Dollar Sales, August 2014 - March 2015. ^{*}Based on consumer evaluation at 12 weeks of use.

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1



2

1 Green rice fried prawns with chili and ginger at Paper Daisy.

2 Bold colors and graphic patterns in a guest room.

LANGUID LITTLE Cabarita Beach is the kind of Australian seaside town that can be hard to find these days. A golden strand protected by an undeveloped headland, it consists of just a few shops and, until recently, a solitary motel. This May, though, that shabby surf motel reopened as **Halcyon House**, a 21-room luxury hotel. Equidistant from the overdeveloped Gold Coast and the bucolic bohemia of Byron Bay, Halcyon represents a new era of boutique properties in Australia, distinguishing itself through distinctive design, an excellent but low-key restaurant, and an abiding commitment to the classic beach vacation.

The sense of nostalgia Halcyon conjures—that feeling of being a kid on holiday—begins at check-in, when guests are greeted with a scoop of homemade ice cream (local passion fruit; chocolate flecked with slivers of native finger lime), and extends to the rooms, where the furniture is upholstered in 1960s-era graphic fabrics. Although a bright blue-and-white scheme dominates, no two rooms are the same, and the walls are hung, salon style, with framed ephemera: a watercolor painting of a rainbow lorikeet, a cameo from the 1930s, a tiny mirror with a tiki-style cane border. In the restaurant, Paper Daisy, Noma alum Ben Devlin showcases innovative dishes that make the most of the area's offerings, such as the prawn roll with avocado, mayo, and iceberg lettuce, and the paper bark-grilled cod with onion and seaweed.

Beyond the design and the food, what makes Halcyon truly special is the unpretentious yet professional service and the welcoming atmosphere that first-time hotel owners (and sisters) Elisha and Siobhan Bickle and general manager Mauro De Riso, formerly of J.K. Place Capri, have created. “We didn’t want Halcyon to feel like another sleek designer hotel,” says Elisha, “but like a worn-in beach house filled with memories and idiosyncrasies” (halcyonhouse.com.au; from \$436). —David Prior

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BOOKS

Ultimate Summer Reads

It doesn't matter whether your idea of a summer vacation is lounging beachside in Wailea or people-watching in the Piazza San Marco: Either way, you'll need a good book in hand. Below are our picks for four of the season's hottest new releases, along with beach-read recommendations from the authors who wrote them.



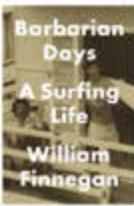
We pick: *Hotel Living*, by Ioannis Pappos A fast-paced roman à clef about a management consultant from a small Greek village who finds himself caught up in the excesses of a pre-2008 global economy, *Hotel Living* is at once a cool-eyed satire and an unexpectedly heartfelt meditation on the meaning of home.

Pappos picks:
Blood Brothers, by Ernst Haffner



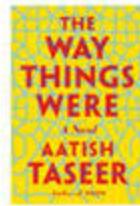
We pick: *Barbara the Slut and Other People*, by Lauren Holmes This collection about Millennials navigating their way through early adulthood (and the complications of sexuality and identity) might be the literary answer to certain HBO shows. But Holmes's voice—at once sharp and empathetic—is all her own.

Holmes picks:
One Hundred Years of Solitude, by Gabriel García Márquez



We pick: *Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life*, by William Finnegan The New Yorker writer's memoir of a life longboarding is an ode to the sport as well as a travelogue: Finnegan spent part of his youth in Hawaii, and his stories of surfing everywhere from Long Island to Madagascar are a beautiful chronicle about the hunt for the perfect wave.

Finnegan picks:
Elena Ferrante's Neapolitan novels



We pick: *The Way Things Were*, by Atish Taseer This novel tells the story of the dissolution of one affluent Delhi family, set against the epic events that shaped contemporary India. The book really sizzles when Taseer focuses on the drawing-room chatter of the Indian elite, and all their snobberies and insecurities.

Taseer picks:
Arctic Summer, by Damon Galgut

TRAVEL UNIFORM

Big Look, Small Space

Make every inch in that weekender bag count with a bright statement piece and a bold patterned dress that packs down to nothing.



From top: Isabel Marant necklace (net-a-porter.com; \$480); Etro dress (Etro, New York; \$1,453); Burberry sandal (burberry.com; \$450).

CRUISE NEWS

La Sultana

We love La Sultana, set deep in the Marrakech Casbah, for its excellent service, and its sister hotel on the Atlantic coast, La Sultana Oualidia, which has one of Morocco's best spas. So we're especially excited about *La Sultana*, the vintage Soviet ferry that the hotel owners have spent the last few years remaking into an elegant seven-suite private charter yacht. Wood-paneled walls are ornately carved and inlaid; original works by Moroccan artists such as Jilali Gharbaoui hang in the lounges and dining areas that spread across the six decks; intricate embroidery dazzles on chaises and loungers; and there are three stylish tenders for trips to shore. While *La Sultana* is thoroughly Moroccan at heart (there's even an onboard hammam), her itineraries aren't: She will spend the summer off the coast of Spain, France, and Italy before cruising the Caribbean this winter (seven-day charters from \$250,000 for up to 12 people). —Maria Shollenbarger





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@EUROPENRoad, PATAGONIA | Amazon asked us to take the Kindle Paperwhite with us on the road. We stopped outside Torres Del Paine National Park to let the girls explore, while I downloaded *Lonely Planet South America* and planned our next move.

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Ushuaia

Nestled on the shores of the Beagle Channel (Canal de Beagle), as far south as roads go on earth, lies charismatic Ushuaia. Boasting 150km Pungas Andes peaks as a spectacular backdrop, this touristy yet pleasant backpackers' town finally ends their South American biking/motorcycling city-to-city at hand, as there's more than just this quirky novelty at hand, as in the area's many other outdoor possibilities. Ushuaia originally established as a penal colony, Ushuaia and fishing brought this fast-growing city's economy to life in the summer high season (December through March), cruise ships visit almost daily, and the main



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TORONTO



Nicknamed “Toronto the Good” for its prudish reputation, North America’s fourth-largest city has long been celebrated as clean, safe, and livable. In other words: the Singapore of North America. These days, however, the once-sleepy metropolis has developed an edge. Thanks to a startling post-recession recovery, the gentrification of former working-class neighborhoods and a full-blown construction craze have transformed the skyline, and former industrial zones like West Toronto Junction are morphing into creative hubs as galleries and studios take over empty warehouses. Meanwhile, the culinary landscape has benefited from the city’s ethnic communities, whose growth—while always strong due to a welcoming immigration policy—has exploded in the past ten years (there are now six distinct Chinatowns, not to mention everything from Little Iran to Little Italy). It’s no surprise, then, that this town is no longer content to be merely “good.” Get ready for Toronto the Great. By Benjamin Leszcz

Shop Around

There’s no shortage of style in this town—you just have to know where to look.

I Miss You

The city is packed with killer vintage-fashion boutiques, but this stalwart in Ossington is our favorite, offering an ever-changing tour through high-fashion history, including classic pieces by Dior, Chanel, Balenciaga, and Céline (416-916-7021).

Mjölk ▲

It feels like the minimalist apartment of your dreams, but Mjölk (above)—Swedish for “milk”—is actually a store in the up-and-coming Junction neighborhood, carrying Scandinavian, Japanese, and Canadian objets, like geometric

lighting fixtures by Studio Vit and high-concept ceramics by Masanobu Ando (store.mjolk.ca).

The Narwhal

Tucked away on a quiet residential street in the tony Summerhill neighborhood, this cozy shop stocks on-trend womenswear such as Acne, Helmut Lang, and Rag and Bone as well as pieces from local favorites: jewelry by Jenny Bird, known for her intricate statement-making pieces, and luxe lingerie brand Fortnight (narwhalboutique.com).

Sydney’s

From his sparse, airy boutique in Queen West, under-the-radar menswear designer Sydney Mamane sells his collection of slim, austere suits and restrained casual wear, including made-in-Toronto button-downs, raw denim jeans, and super-soft T-shirts (shopsydney.com).

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SHORTIES

On March 31, 2015, at Lightbox Studios in New York City, *Condé Nast Traveler* celebrated Shorties, a first-of-its-kind, shorter-than-short film festival celebrating extraordinary travel moments from around the world—made by you, shared with us, and shown to the world. *Condé Nast Traveler* Publisher Bill Wackermann and Editor in Chief Pilar Guzmán presented winners with a trip to Dubai, United Arab Emirates including 4 nights at a 5-star hotel and a Heritage Safari Tour. The program concluded on cntraveler.com, where users celebrated their favorite moments by voting for a People's Choice winner and sending them on a 7-day Norwegian Cruise.

Congratulations to these Shorties winners!



Joel Levinson



David P Alexander



Rachel Lindee



Jarrett Nixon

People's Choice:
Sami Al-Asfour


LIST SERVICE

Use your **Capital One® Venture®** card to book your stay at Edson Hill, a *Condé Nast Traveler* 2015 Hot List Property. The sophisticated country inn, located in Stowe, Vermont, offers guests modern conveniences in an elegant 1940s setting. When you book with your Capital One Venture card using code "CAPITAL," you'll receive a complimentary room upgrade, plus a bottle of wine, and a charcuterie and cheese plate.

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MAUI

From beautiful beaches to incredibly scenic drives and authentic luau, every moment on Maui is filled with experiences to remember. You can also add a unique touch to your itinerary by including local annual events such as the Hawaii Food & Wine Festival, held on multiple islands. Savor delicious dishes produced by internationally renowned chefs highlighting Maui-grown products on September 4–6. For more information and a free Maui Travel Guide, go to VisitMaui.com or call 1-800-525-MAUI (6284).

Where We Stay

The best (and most beautiful) places in town to spend the night.

The Drake ▾

It isn't so much a hotel as an all-in-one concert venue, gallery, café, restaurant... that just happens to have 19 guest rooms. Opened in 2004, The Drake (below) instantly transformed Toronto's West End from working-class to creative-class, drawing penniless artists and their moneied patrons with its contemporary art, leather club chairs, and impeccable service (thedorakehotel.ca; from \$200).

Four Seasons Toronto

This 259-room, soaring glass tower—the flagship property of the Toronto-based Four Seasons—opened nearly three years ago among the boutiques and cafés of Yorkville. The interiors were created by local superstar design firm Yabu Pushelberg and feature more than 1,700 commissioned artworks, including a sculpture carved from moose antlers by the British Columbia-based Shane Wilson (fourseasons.com; from \$400).

Shangri-La

A dose of urban Zen between the city's entertainment and financial districts, the 202-room hotel makes good use of East Asian elements (black-and-white Japanese watercolors, chinoiserie vases) to create a calming home base. There's also an outpost of chef David Chang's Momofuku—the first outside the United States—for those late-night ramen cravings (shangri-la.com; from \$300).



GETTING AROUND

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WHERE CAN I...

...find the world's best Manhattan?

Jen Agg, whose Dundas West **Cocktail Bar** is across the street from her restaurants, Black Hoof and Rhum Bar, so reveres the Manhattan that she's spent years perfecting it. Hers is made with ten-year-old rye, Carpano Antica Formula vermouth, and homemade bitters. Agg has no qualms about imposing her idiosyncratic worldview on patrons—to wit, she's banned vodka from her apothecary-inspired bar (hoofcocktailbar.com).

...explore a pedestrian-friendly neighborhood that time forgot? ▲

A century after Jewish immigrants established **Kensington Market** (above), a generation of new-school (yet old-school) shopkeepers have the hippie-meets-hipster neighborhood bustling again. Make stops at fishmonger Hooked, sourdough sanctuary Blackbird Bakery (N.Y.C. chef April Bloomfield is a co-owner), and butcher shop/sandwich joint Sanagan's Meat Locker—ideally on the last Sunday of a warm-weather month, when the streets are closed to cars (kensington-market.ca).

...order authentic dim sum?

Adjacent to Kensington Market is one of North America's largest and liveliest Chinatowns, home to dozens of authentic, affordable eateries. For lunch or dinner, you'll find the city's best dim sum at the always-packed **Rol San** (416-977-1128), **Mother's Dumplings** (mothersdumplings.com), and **Noble Seafood** (416-597-0888). Or come for a late-night snack—some restaurants here get around the post-2 A.M. alcohol ban by selling beer as "cold tea."

...eat some seriously good BBQ?

Anthony Rose is a rising star in Toronto's food scene, and the raucous **Big Crow**, in The Annex neighborhood, is at the heart of his empire (which also includes the greasy spoon Rose and Sons and the Israeli/Eastern European Fat Pasha). Whether under open skies in summer or in a heated tent in winter, Big Crow burns through a small forest each night, cooking everything from pistou pork ribs to apricot jam-topped salami to tiny tender chickens on an ever-roaring fire (roseandsongsbigcrow.com).



GET HERE EARLY

BAR RAVAL

Chef Grant van Gameren's Spanish-inflected Bar Isabel became the city'suzziest spot right after it opened in 2013. His new Bar Raval, in Little Italy, is just as hot, serving perfect tapas like house-tinned razor clams and squid cooked in pork fat. The only bummer: They don't take reservations, so get on the list by 5 P.M. to beat the crowds (thisisbaraval.com).



Even Torontonians Get Excited About These Cultural Gems

Aga Khan Museum ▲

In northeast Toronto, the newly opened Aga Khan Museum, designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Fumihiko Maki, is set on an impeccably landscaped 17-acre site. Its 1,000-piece collection—which focuses on the intellectual and creative contributions of Islamic cultures—has toured the world, stopping in the Louvre and the Hermitage before settling into its spectacular permanent home last year (agakhanmuseum.org).

Art Gallery of Ontario

The 115-year-old AGO is the go-to for high-wattage shows by marquee names like Ai Weiwei and Matthew Barney. Then there's the permanent collection, which contains more than 5,000 Inuit works, pieces by European masters, and the world's largest holding of Henry Moore sculptures. The Frank Gehry-designed glass-and-wood facade is itself a work of art (ago.net).

Design Exchange

Located in the former home of the Toronto Stock Exchange, DX stages an eclectic mix of visiting graphic- and fashion-design exhibitions, from "Christian Louboutin: 20 Years" to Stefan Sagmeister's "The Happy Show," along with original exhibits such as "This Is Not a Toy," guest curated by Pharrell Williams (dx.org).

A Local's Must-Do List

Celebrity stylist and Toronto native Elizabeth Cabral has worked with Beyoncé, Keira Knightley, and Kirsten Dunst, and is the former fashion director of Flare magazine (Canada's fashion bible). She told us her favorite hometown haunts.

The Common

"There may be new coffee shops popping up on every corner, but The Common still has the best grinds. This West End coffee shop has been around since before *hipster* entered the lexicon, yet it's really a no-fuss, all-local kind of place" (416-546-7789).

Splendido Bar & Grill

"I always tell visitors that if they only have time for one meal, it should be the seafood-centric tasting menu at Splendido, in The Annex, which often includes sea urchin from British Columbia, smoked oysters, and seared foie gras from Quebec" (splendido.ca).

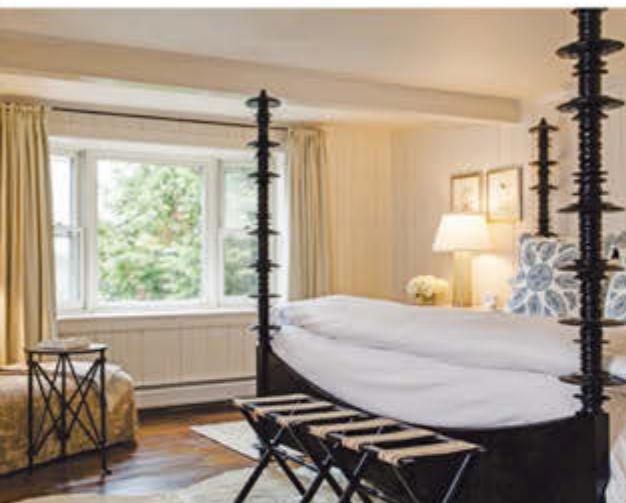
Stillwater Spa at the Park Hyatt Toronto

"I'm a massage snob and can say with authority that the ones here are the best in town. I don't even have a regular therapist because every single person at the spa has magical hands" (parktoronto.hyatt.com).

Wychwood Barns Farmers' Market

"I spend Saturday mornings visiting my favorite vendors at this Wychwood Park market, especially Delish Kitch for their homemade, gluten-free granola bars" (atthebarns.org).





JULY/AUGUST LIST SERVICE

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◆ Viking Longship Aquavit Terrace

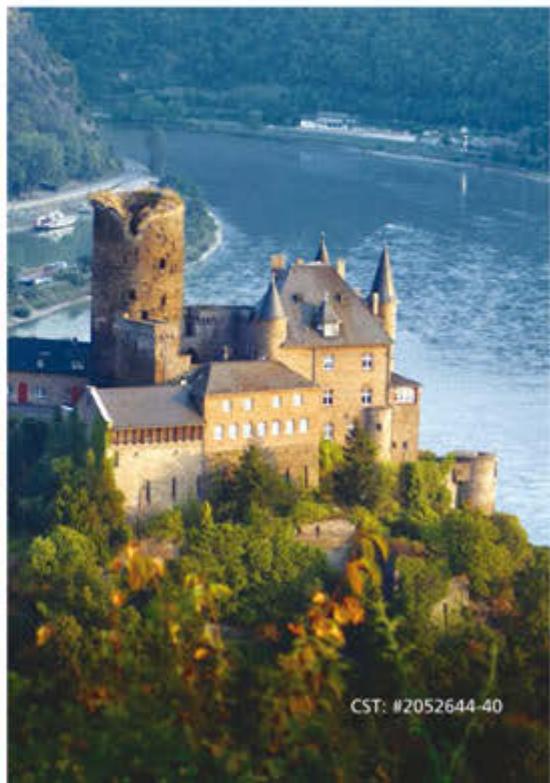


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Another Happy Place on Earth

Novelist Nell Freudenberger always swore that parenthood wouldn't change where—or how—she traveled. But a recent family trip to Copenhagen made her realize that traveling with kids had transformed her very definition of a perfect vacation.

OUR SIX-YEAR-OLD daughter had been asking about a visit to the Happiest Place on Earth. My husband and I were reluctant. We'd caved on the movies, the princess dresses, and the *Frozen*-themed birthday party, but the idea of spending thousands of dollars on a vacation to Orlando left us cold. Parenthood requires sacrifices—money, sex, sleep—but there's always something you refuse to give up. We were okay with saying good-bye to couples' hotels and formal restaurants, and we aren't the kind of intrepid souls who hike through Patagonia with toddlers strapped to our backs. But we never wanted to give up the feeling of waking up in a foreign city, where even the air tastes different.

When our daughter asked again last spring, we told her that there is *another* happiest place on earth—number one, according to the United Nations' World Happiness Report for 2013. "Actually," we told her, "it's where Walt Disney got the idea for Disneyland. And it also starts with a *D*. How about Denmark?"

THE IDEA for the trip was my father's: A screenwriter with a passion for haute cuisine, he'd been up at 4:30 in the morning six months earlier to re-reserve a table at Noma. When my sister and her family decided to join us (our priorities included reliable Wi-Fi and a kitchen where we could store our peanut-butter crackers and packaged mac and cheese), we rented an

Airbnb apartment on Købmagergade, a cobblestoned shopping street in the heart of the old city. Our helpful hostess, the mother of four teenage children, was in the apartment to welcome us at 8 A.M.: four adults, a six-year-old, and two two-year-olds grimy from the overnight flight from New York. She was dressed in a close-fitting Dolce & Gabbana black dress and took us on a tour, pointing out the contemporary paintings and photographs, including large-format black-and-white nudes that we realized, midway through our tour, were of her.

We awoke early the next morning to the sound of the Royal Life Guards marching beneath our window. We held the kids up to the window to see

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the soldiers, in black bearskin caps and royal-blue uniforms, marching between the Rosenborg and Amalienborg palaces. Since no one was going back to bed, we decided to hit Tivoli Gardens first. One of the oldest amusement parks in the world, the intimate and verdant Tivoli opened in 1843; when Disney visited a century later, he supposedly told his wife, "Now this is what an amusement place should be!"

If the Disneys rode the Rutschebanen, a wooden roller coaster built in 1914, they must've enjoyed it more than our daughter did. "When is it over?" she shouted during the first dark plunge, and didn't stop for the interminable two minutes and ten seconds that followed. At the exit she was in tears, and I was close: I was pretty sure this wouldn't have happened at Disney World.

What, exactly, is my problem with Disney? All the smart, grown-up women I know seem to love *Frozen* as much as our daughter does, applauding its empowering messages for girls and its celebration of sisterly love over romance. I'd told our daughter that Elsa and Anna were basically Danish and that Hans Christian Andersen's "The Snow Queen" inspired the movie. That story has always been my favorite, for the beauty in its strange details: the hobgoblin's shattered mirror, the Lapland reindeer, the black-eyed robber girl who sleeps with her knife. All of this is washed out of the Disney version, in which an impossibly proportioned blond girl learns to control her tremendous powers—and uses them to build an all-weather skating rink.

As an antidote to the roller coaster, we climbed onto Den Flyvende Kuffert ("The Flying Trunk"), which promised a gentle ride through mechanized scenes from Andersen's stories. Six months earlier, in preparation for this trip, I'd bought our daughter the gorgeous Taschen edition of Andersen's fairy tales. She hadn't made it through "The Snow Queen," and like the Disney screenwriters, I'd felt obliged to change the incredibly depressing ending of "The Little Mermaid." As we glided past the flame-haired mermaid,

a plummy narrator's voice recited a summary: *The Little Mermaid left her beautiful undersea home to see the world. She came to love a human—and so made a bad bargain. But, as so often happens, she soon discovered she couldn't have everything she wanted.* If there was a metaphor for family travel, I thought, that was it. In the case of families with multiple children under the age of ten, you were lucky if you got *anything* you wanted. But as we drifted by the shell-lacked mermaid, I finally saw the enchanted expression I'd been hoping for on our daughter's face. I tried to take a video, but it was impossible in the dark; instead, I gave up and just watched as we passed The Ugly Duckling, The Little Match Girl, and The Princess and the Pea.

"Can we go again?" she asked me at the exit.

"As many times as you want," I said.

OUR DAUGHTER had asked if she would see Elsa and Anna at Tivoli Gardens, and we had told her no—but that Copenhagen has a real princess just her age. Princess Isabella is third in line to the throne and has her own section on the monarchy's website, where she can be seen skiing with her family in the Swiss Alps. Isabella was busy sailing on the royal yacht during our stay, but we were able to visit the family's crown jewels at Rosenborg Palace. The diminutive castle is set in beautiful Kongens Have ("King's Garden"), with two parallel allées, both lined with linden trees. Even Disney couldn't outdo the Dutch Renaissance, with its stair turrets and copper spires, and Rosenborg is a fairy-tale illustration, complete with a moat.

One of the pleasures of traveling with children is doing things you wouldn't choose if you were on your own, and there was something hypnotic about descending the stone steps into the treasury, where wooden casks of the royal family's wine rested in humid underground rooms alongside a jeweled elephant saddle and the thousand-year-old monarchy's orb and scepter. When we got outside, our daughter pointed to a

fleur-de-lis on the information sheet. "I remember this from *Frozen*," she whispered reverently.

WHEN I was in my twenties, backpacking through India, I thought that budget travel gave me a perspective that tourists pampered in the fine hotels never got. In a sense, traveling with kids does the same thing. On the fourth night of our stay, our daughter got up in the middle of the night and rushed to the bathroom. I spent the rest of the day doing laundry while she watched *The Little Mermaid* and, for some variety, *The Sound of Music*, on the iPad, to the tune of actual church bells in the background.

By evening my husband was sick as well, so after putting him and our kids to bed, I went downstairs to babysit my sister's insomniac toddler while she and her husband went to Noma with our father and his wife—a situation that gave me lots of opportunity to feel sorry for myself. Except that my niece is a charmer, and truth be told, my husband and I had turned down the opportunity to eat ants on beef tartare even before anyone got sick.

I woke up early the next morning and couldn't go back to sleep, so I made tea in a mug that said MOR, a word I'd learned from a postcard stuck to the refrigerator, on which the sexy blond mom's kids had inscribed, "Du er den bedste mor i verden." The only ones awake were a few pigeons on the slick slate roof. I tried to imagine what the roof would look like frosted in the very dark Danish winter afternoons, when the well of apartments over the wooden courtyard would all be lit. If I were honest with myself, it hadn't been an especially successful 24 hours. If we had gone to Disney World, reversals would have been less likely; on the other hand, it's hard to enjoy the highs of travel without the lows. And so, when our daughter woke up healthy, clamoring to go to the outdoor sculpture garden—where we would have views of Sweden across the sound—I felt for a few moments like the best *mor* in the *verden*. ♦



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Pittsburgh ranks high on the list of best cultural destinations. Downtown Pittsburgh's walkable Cultural District has nine theaters within 14 blocks, showcasing a symphony orchestra, opera and dance companies, comedy, and award-winning plays. Through August 16, enjoy Broadway in the 'Burgh with the Pittsburgh CLO's blockbuster season, including *Kinky Boots*, starring Tony®-Award winner and Pittsburgh native Billy Porter.

From Old Masters prints to thought-provoking contemporary works, there's something for every art lover here. The city's Carnegie Museum of Art boasts a world-class collection and plays host to the triennial Carnegie International. Visit The Andy Warhol Museum, the most comprehensive single-artist museum in the world, or immerse yourself in room-sized installations at the Mattress Factory, a contemporary art museum.

With rivers, trails, and parks galore, the City of Bridges is pristinely green—and perfect for summery outdoor adventures. You can bike, walk, or jog along the riverfronts for fantastic views of the skyline. Or connect with nature at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, which features a Butterfly Forest and groundbreaking sustainable architecture.

Chefs on the local food scene are using innovative approaches and local ingredients, which you can taste for yourself with specially priced menus during Pittsburgh Restaurant Week (August 10–16). When you're ready for some (tax-free) shopping, visit neighborhoods like historic Shadyside for a mix of eclectic boutiques and national retailers, or hunt for bargains at Grove City Premium Outlets, located just 50 minutes north of the city.



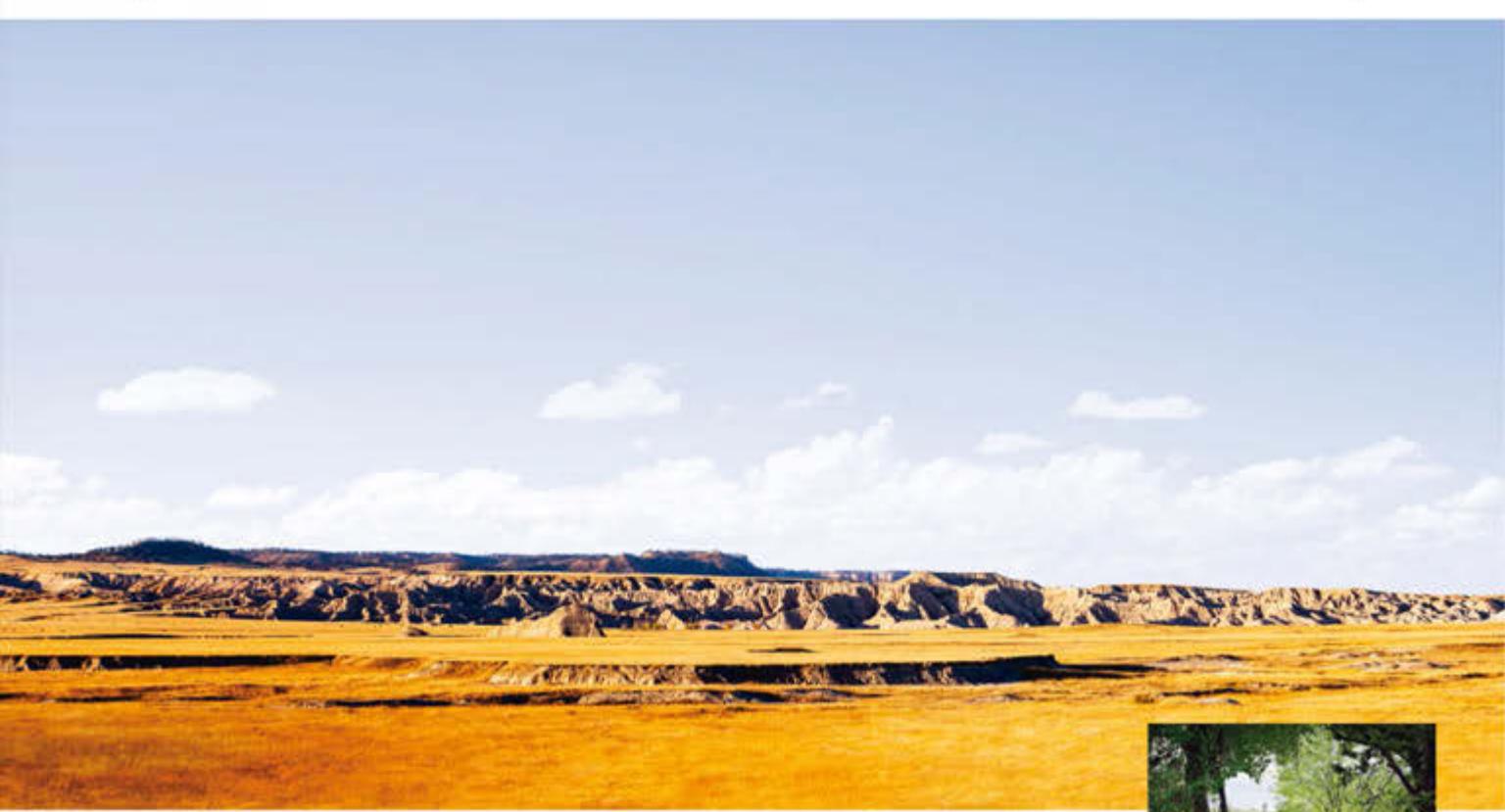
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**GET TO KNOW**

Nebraska

Discover what's so nice about this stunning, surprising state

SPECIAL MOMENTS ARE SURE

to happen on a warm-weather getaway to Nebraska. All across the state, you'll find fun and friendliness—no matter what your interests happen to be. From the vibrant cities in the east to the lakes and ponderosa pine forests of the west, the possibilities are wide open—just like the landscape.

In Omaha and Lincoln, get your fill of culture and much more, with concerts, zoos, and museums that are some of the best in the nation. Listen to live blues at Lincoln's Zoo Bar, or on August 15 check out the Maha Music Festival, Omaha's home-grown indie rock event. Omaha's world-

renowned Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium—top-ranked in America—offers more than 130 acres of animal exhibits, activities, and attractions, while the Lincoln Children's Zoo provides an amazing interactive experience for kids. Ashland's Strategic Air and Space Museum puts the dynamic history of air and spacecraft on display, and art lovers can't miss Sheldon (Lincoln) and Joslyn (Omaha) Art museums.

From the east through central Nebraska to the west, Nebraska's rivers, state parks, and lakes provide endless outdoor adventures. You can hike, tube, and camp your way through a truly refreshing vacation thanks to all the natural beauty the state offers. Explore the trails of Ponca State Park, or stay cool by floating down Nebraska's Niobrara River, shaded by dense aspen and pines. Out west, you can camp, swim, boat, and fish for walleye at the 35,700-acre Lake McConaughy, a destination beloved for its white sandy beaches and water recreation.



TOP:
Toadstool Park
Panoramic
BOTTOM:
Tubing on the
Niobrara River

You remember the “firsts.” First date. First kiss. First love. They set the bar forever and each one is unforgettable. Without comparison. Out here, it’s simple. Your expectations are forgotten and quietly replaced by a new appreciation for the good life. A place where feeling a “first” is found again and again. Wouldn’t that be nice?

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Everything You Thought You Knew About Safari Is Wrong

Maybe you considered it too expensive, too time-consuming, too difficult to plan . . . a once-in-a-lifetime trip that you kept putting off until, well, never. But the truth is that there's never been a better or easier moment to take a safari—and those many misconceptions turn out to be just that. Here's how to stop worrying . . . and (finally) book that great African adventure.

Photographs by Adrian Gaut



MYTH You need at least two weeks to *really* do it right

Not only is it possible to do it in a week—it may even be preferable (and it's certainly less tiring).

Most experts agree: Eight days is all you need for an African safari, which is good news for travelers who can't swing two weeks or more out of the office. "If you've got a full workweek off, bookended by weekends, you can have a fantastic experience," says Michael Lorentz of the safari travel company Passage to Africa. Here's how to do it: Stick to one country. Don't try to pack too much into a single trip (tempting as it may be). And make sure you choose activities you actually *want* to do—whether it's game drives and fly camping, or

exploring local villages and elephant orphanages—versus those you think you should. "The nuances of a weeklong safari are hugely complex—we spend hours as a team constructing itineraries, and the design of these trips is critical," Lorentz says. The eight-day safari is also perfect for beginners, he adds, "because if you really fall in love with it, you can return and plan so much more. In Africa, you'll never run out of things to look forward to." And don't forget that it's easier to get to Africa than you think—especially if you're flying from the East Coast: There are nonstop flights to Johannesburg from New York City and Atlanta, and connecting flights to Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.



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YEAR-ROUND SUNSHINE and incredibly diverse terrain make South Africa a haven for the adventurous at heart. From awe-inspiring hikes and hot-air balloon rides to zip lining and cage diving, you're sure to get the lion's share of excitement. Here are five ways to get your adrenaline going throughout South Africa.

1 Diving with Great Whites: Watch from the safety of your steel cage as great whites gracefully swim past and occasionally bump up against the bars. The most popular viewing locations run along the Western Cape and include False Bay, Seal Island, and Shark Alley.

2 Bungee Jumping: For those seeking a bigger rush, the 591-foot Bloukrans Bridge is a seven-hour drive from Cape Town and the highest bridge bungee jump in the world. If the Bloukrans Bridge is too intense, the 160-foot Kings Kloof Bridge in Krugersdorp is a good standby, as are the 325-foot Orlando Towers near Johannesburg.

3 Zip Lining: The fully escorted and ecologically-minded Tsitsikamma Canopy Tour is the first of its kind in the country. Slip into a state-of-the-art harness and then glide from platform to platform along a steel cable stretching up to 100 feet above the fern-covered floor. Look out for vervet monkeys and learn about the rainforest's unique ecosystem from your expert guide.

4 Hot-Air Ballooning: If a leisurely adventure is more your style, discover South Africa's natural wonders while floating high above them in a hot-air balloon. Take a flight over the Vredefort Dome World Heritage Site and Kalahari Desert in the Northern Cape or sweep above the Western Cape's rolling vineyards.

5 Exploring the Mountains: A UNESCO World Heritage Site that spans almost 600,000 acres, the magnificent uKhahlamba/Drakensberg Park makes for jaw-dropping hiking, kayaking, and horseback riding.

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Inspiring new ways

MYTH Safaris are crazy expensive

Considering all that's included, they're actually a great value.

No one will ever call them cheap, but remember that the price per person—about \$600 a night on average—includes everything: meals, drinks (that usually means sundowners while watching a pride of lions), game drives, guided walks, and other activities, along with airport transfers and park entry fees. The only add-on is tipping, generally about \$20 per person a day for a guide and \$10 a day for a tracker. “Hidden charges rarely sneak up,” says Bas Hochstenbach, co-founder of Asilia Africa, which operates 16 camps and lodges in Kenya and Tanzania. And you can go anytime of year—just keep an eye on migration patterns before you book.

PICK ONE GREAT LOCATION . . . AND STAY THERE

One of the biggest expenses—about 20 percent of the total safari bill—is the cost of getting from one remote camp or lodge to the next. Choose a place that won’t require a lot of short charter flights. The lower Zambezi River and the Luangwa Valley in Zambia, for instance, are areas where you can have an entirely fulfilling experience at one camp. Uganda and Zimbabwe are excellent values as well.

GO DURING THE OFF-SEASON

You probably weren’t aware that the Great Migration (when more than a million wildebeests cross the Serengeti) actually happens year-round—not just in June, July, and August. Consider going earlier in the year. “In January, February, or March,” says Hochstenbach, “you’ll save at least 30 percent, and you’ll still see the wildebeests in all their glory. Or consider visiting in April or May, during the rainy season, which is actually quite spectacular—and you’ll save even more.”



MYTH It's just not safe right now

Truth is, game preserves are some of the safest places on earth.

While the **Big Five**—lions, rhinos, elephants, leopards, and Cape buffalo—may be the main attraction, some of the smaller but no less exotic creatures might turn out to be your favorites.

The majority of travelers to Africa never set foot in the most dangerous corners of the continent. “I’ve been doing this for 30 years,” says Mark Nolting of the Africa Adventure

Company. “I’m not aware of any camps or lodges being targeted by terrorists. It just hasn’t happened.”

Experts agree that the Kenyan coastline remains dangerous, but typical safari itineraries would never

take travelers to those areas or to Garissa, where Shabaab gunmen killed 147 people in April. (The city is more than 200 miles from Nairobi, which is about the distance between New York City and Baltimore.)

The best way to protect yourself? Book through a specialist with on-the-ground personnel who can keep you updated on the changing security situation. “We had clients in Nairobi on the day the deadly attack on the Westgate mall began,” says Dan Saperstein of Hippo Creek Safaris. “They were of course saddened and horrified, but it didn’t have a direct impact on their trip.”

As for Ebola—the disease that many mistakenly perceive to be affecting the whole continent—safari-goers had little to worry about even at the height of the 2014 outbreak in West Africa: Monrovia, the capital of Liberia (once the epicenter of the Ebola outbreak), is 3,300 miles from Nairobi, the hub most international travelers inevitably pass through en route to East African safaris.



What else you'll see in: BOTSWANA The **avifauna** are the draw in the Okavango Delta, including the **Pel's fishing owl** and the **lilac-breasted roller**. Across the country, you can track **meerkats** on foot in Makgadikgadi Pans National Park; they'll come close enough to touch.

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MYTH South Africa is for beginners

Well, that may be true. But that doesn't mean it isn't one of the best all-around safari experiences—period.



Book a safari in South Africa and rest assured that smug, been-there/done-that types will tell you “what a great place it is for a beginner’s safari,” perfect for the “Africa virgin.” The implication: too tame, too choreographed, too manicured—especially compared with, say, Zambia or Zimbabwe. But there’s a reason South Africa is the choice of so many first-timers *and* veterans. “The animal density is fantastic—with great lion, leopard, and cheetah numbers—so the game viewing is dependably excellent,” says Christopher Wilmot-Sitwell, co-owner and director of tailor-made luxury adventure specialists Cazenove & Loyd.

“The camps are stunning, and they have some of the best guides on the continent.” And what of the claim that safaris here are too predictable or too reliant on radio-tracking and vehicle pacing? “There is something quite ‘managed’ about most South African safaris,” acknowledges C&L founder Henrietta Loyd. But there are enormous advantages as well, she adds, “not least for our multi-generational clients, who appreciate how easy it is to safari in a non-malarial zone.”

On the other hand, that hyper-managed approach is unique to the larger national parks. For an altogether different—and arguably more genuine—experience, look to the private concessions maintained by top-notch lodges in the Madikwe Game Reserve and adjacent to Kruger National Park. “Molori, Londolozi, Singita—these lodges offer world-class luxury, and they operate in vast private areas, where they have wide traversing rights,” says Wilmot-Sitwell—meaning you, as a guest, can go far off-road and can venture out at night, the ideal time to spot leopards. It also means you can ride around all day and not see another Land Rover, not even once.



What else you'll see in: TANZANIA Tracking and photographing **wild dogs** in their natural habitat is the next-generation safari here. “They’re one of the most intelligent and fascinating hunting packs on the planet, and they’re acutely endangered,” says Will Bolsover, founder and director of Natural World Safaris.



MYTH Safaris are way too strenuous

In fact—as special projects editor Stephen Orr discovered—they’re more sedentary than you ever expected.

 I still dream of the animals, sights, and sounds I experienced on my recent safari in South Africa. But as a first-timer, I also experienced one challenge that no one had told me about, and it wasn’t a charging elephant or a rampaging hippo: It was what I came to call The Tyranny of Mealtime. We simply ate too much. There was early breakfast before our first sunrise outing, then second breakfast (a term I thought belonged exclusively to Bilbo Baggins), then a long lunch, then a lavish afternoon tea, then an evening “surprise-and-delight” stop somewhere out in the bush that could be anything from G&Ts and grilled sausages around a fire pit to a full-on fondue setup, and finally a three-course dinner. This happened every day—for four days.

“It’s a popular misconception that you’re going to be running around like Indiana Jones on safari,” says Joss Kent, CEO of safari tour company andBeyond. “In fact, the typical day can be very sedentary.” He’s not kidding. Aside from the constant overeating, guests are required to remain in the immediate—often fenced—vicinity of the lodge, with no opportunity to take an unaccompanied hike or jog. Granted, this is for your own safety: Your recently fattened self, lumbering through the bush, would be too tempting a treat for a hungry lioness. That said, I asked some experts what I should do on my next safari so I wouldn’t feel like I needed to go on a juice fast when I got home.

GET OUT AND HIKE

Inquire before booking to see if walking safaris are offered at your camp or lodge. If so, you’ll be allowed outside the vehicle, literally grounding your experience in the sights and smells of Africa. Excursions can be an afternoon outing or a multi-day trek led by specially trained (and armed) rangers. And ask about the guide’s qualifications: For andBeyond, those with a Grade 2 certification are authorized to teach guests how to follow rhinos, buffalo, and elephants and view them from a safe distance, perhaps with some ethnobotany thrown in along the way.

HIT THE GYM

Safari companies realize that their younger clientele don’t want to break their daily fitness regimen, so most

lodges offer yoga classes or a “gym in a bag” that includes mats, jump ropes, and weights to be used in the guest rooms. Properties like Sandibe Okavango Safari Lodge in Botswana and Segera Retreat in Kenya take it a step further, with proper gyms featuring a range of weights and exercise machines.

GO MOBILE

Nicky Fitzgerald of Kenya’s Angama Mara lodge suggests booking a mobile camp—a tented camp in which you move from location to location to see different types of game—in East Africa. “This is the active safari most people think of,” she says. “It’s just that one piece of canvas between you and the wild animals. Still, it’s quite luxurious.”

ADD AN ADVENTURE

White-water rafting, mountain biking, and camel excursions are some of the high-adrenaline offerings available to safari-goers in Kenya—and they’re a fair indication of where the market is heading throughout Africa in an effort to satisfy more active customers. “Africa is becoming a destination for more than great game-drive safaris,” says Bas Hochstenbach of camp operator Asilia Africa.



What else you’ll see in: KENYA Antelope and zebras are big here. Bolsover, of Natural World Safaris, says that of Africa’s three zebra species, the **Grevy’s zebra** is the most endangered, and it’s found in its greatest numbers in the country’s north, around Samburu-land. Cherri Briggs of Explore, Inc., is always on the lookout for **gerenuk**, a long-necked antelope that she describes as “sort of a giraffe-impala hybrid.”

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Reported by Paul Brady, Stephen Orr, Maria Shollenbarger, John Wogan

THE SAFARI FIXERS

Will Bolsover, managing director of Natural World Safaris, has more than a decade of Africa experience. His company runs wildlife-focused trips in Borneo and India (naturalworldsafaris.com).

Cherri Briggs, president of Explore, Inc., has been a top *Condé Nast Traveler* safari specialist since 2001 and has particular expertise in Botswana, where she lives part-time (exploreafrika.net).

Nicky Fitzgerald, with her husband, Steve, owns Angama Mara, a lodge overlooking Kenya's Mara Triangle, and they've developed more than 60 lodges over the last 30 years (angama.com).

Linda Friedman, founder of Custom Safaris, has more than two decades of experience arranging trips through Southern and East Africa (customsafaris.com).

Bas Hochstenbach, co-founder of Asilia Africa, operates 15 camps in Kenya and Tanzania (asiliaafrica.com).

Joss Kent, CEO of andBeyond, oversees 33 lodges across Africa and India (andbeyond.com).

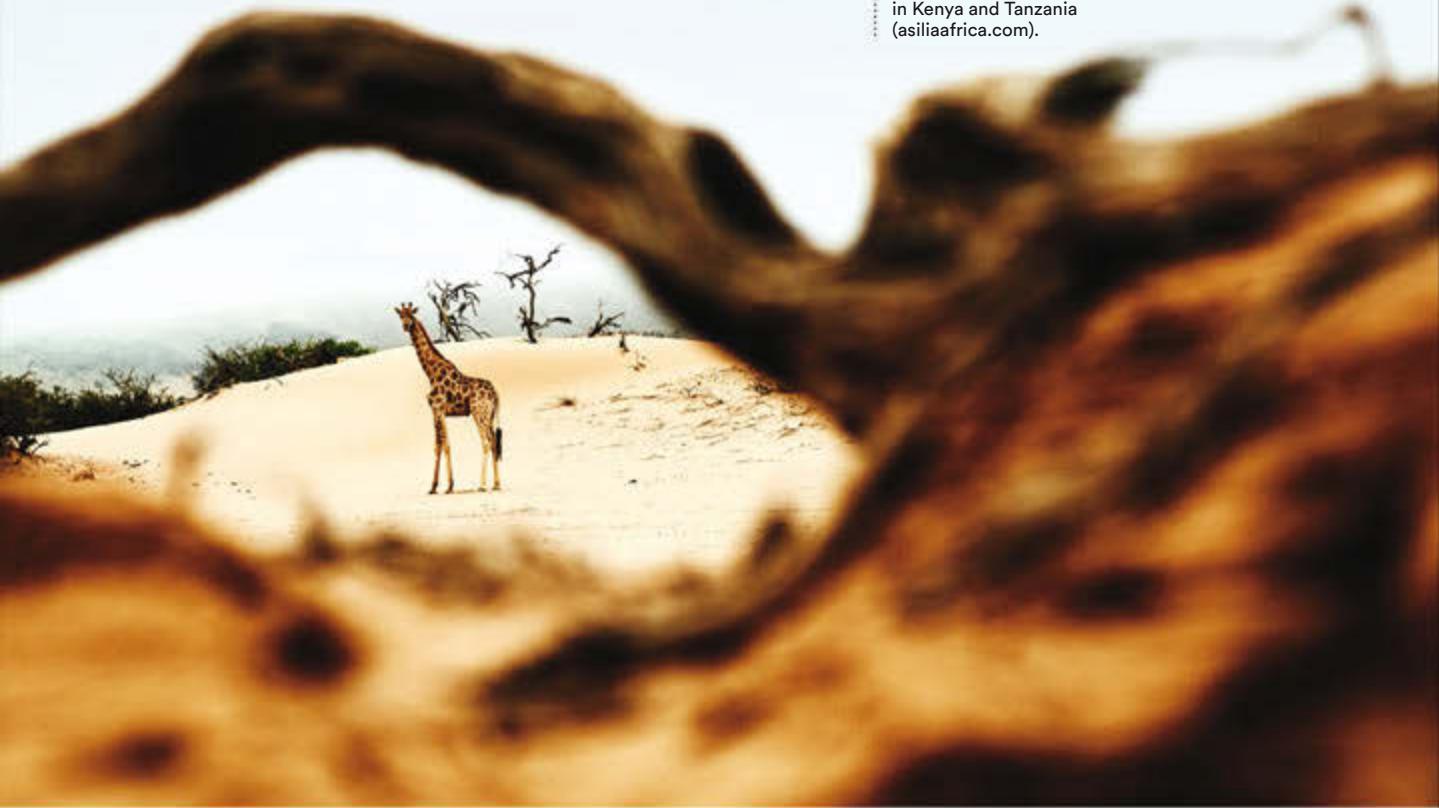
Michael Lorentz, CEO of Passage to Africa, has been guiding safaris in Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, and Zambia for 26 years (passagetoafrika.com).

Henrietta Loyd, founder of Cazenove & Loyd, and **Christopher Wilmot-Sitwell**, co-owner and director, together have more than 50 years' experience planning luxury travel (cazloyd.com).

Mark Nolting, of the Africa Adventure Company, has been organizing safaris since 1986. His book *Africa's Top Wildlife Countries* is now in its eighth edition (africa-adventure.com).

Dan Saperstein, co-owner of Hippo Creek Safaris, specializes in customized trips to Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda (hippocreeksafaris.com).

For more safari specialists, go to cntraveler.com/travel-specialists.



What else you'll see in: SOUTH AFRICA A nocturnal safari on a private reserve will yield sightings of **hippopotamuses**, along with shyer creatures like **African civets**, **springhares** (these rodents hop everywhere and resemble a miniature kangaroo crossed with a rabbit), fierce **honey badgers**, and prehistoric-looking **pangolins**, or scaly anteaters.

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DEWDROP BY GILLIAN STEVENS

Dewdrop is a collection of travel and lifestyle products that favor style and utility with a flair for the unexpected. From hand-printed leather travel totes and tech sleeves to travel journals and backpacks, designer Gillian Stevens constructs pieces that are durable, lovely, and environmentally conscious. All Dewdrop products are handmade in the USA. Sign up for their monthly one-of-a-kind sales events and receive free shipping on all future orders.

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GORE-TEX® GEAR IN ACTION

Follow Foster Huntington as he feeds his passions with off-season powder.

PHOTOGRAPHER, BLOGGER, and author Foster Huntington is on a mission, and it's bringing him back to the Pacific Northwest. Relying on his instincts and his gear, this Portland, Oregon, native is chasing winter in the summer. And for Huntington, the very best place to find off-season snow is Palmer Glacier, on the south slopes of Mount Hood.

"I grew up going to snowboarding camp on Mount Hood, and it was also my first exposure to photography, videography, and boarding culture. It was invaluable in shaping my perspective of what I was into aesthetically," says the artistically inclined Huntington. It's only natural that he's excited to be back this summer, camping out and pursuing his passions.

Huntington knows that extreme conditions aren't uncommon on Mount Hood in the summertime. "I got caught in a blizzard in July here once. While that might be unsettling to most, I live for those kinds of curve balls," he says.

And he's ready for whatever nature throws his way with reliable gear that's up to the task—his GORE-TEX® jacket, pants, boots, and gloves. The weather changes fast at this altitude but, as Huntington says, "With the right gear, you can stay out in the cold almost indefinitely."

See more of Huntington's experiences at arrestlesstransplant.com, and gear up for your own adventure at gore-tex.com/experience.





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Reflecting Pool on the National Mall

DC COOL LIST

Our top four picks for fresh-air fun in Washington, DC



Fireworks over Potomac

Summer's in full swing, and there are lots of ways to get outside and enjoy the longer days and rising temperatures on a visit to our nation's capital. From fireworks and rock shows to beer tastings and water sports, here are our best bets for outdoor amusement on your warm-weather getaway to DC.

1. Independence Day

Do July 4th right this summer and join the city-wide celebration taking place in Washington, DC. See more than 100 marching bands at the parade on Constitution Avenue and take in a range of concerts throughout the day. At night, the stars come out when the National Symphony Orchestra and all-star guests perform before an awesome fireworks show.

2. Foo Fighters 20th Anniversary Celebration

Don't miss the legendary group's epic Fourth of July concert at RFK Stadium in Washington, DC. This spectacular show will include a BBQ, motorcycle rally, and fireworks

display, along with special performances by artists like Buddy Guy, Joan Jett, and LL Cool J.

3. Brew at the Zoo

Raise a glass while helping animals during the Brew at the Zoo at the Smithsonian's National Zoo on July 23. Sample beers from more than 60 craft breweries, and don't miss the food trucks, live entertainment, lawn games, and animal demonstrations at this benefit for wildlife care and conservation.

4. DC by Boat

You can create your very own Washington, DC aquatic adventure with boating lessons, kayaking, canoeing, and stand-up paddleboarding. They're all great ways to see the city's monuments and waterfront from a different angle. Bring a picnic, or use their grills for a post-paddle cookout by the water.

Make the most of your summer with an unforgettable trip to Washington, DC.



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lonesome, dangerous, leading to
the most amazing view. May your mountains
rise into and above the clouds.*

”

*Edward Abbey,
author and environmentalist*



The classic lines and signature aluminum gleam of the Airstream camper have sparked road-trip wanderlust since the early 1930s. See page 98 for more.



Summer Fling

Photographs by Alexia Silvagni

August in Mallorca represents a kind of European ease that doesn't exist in the continental U.S.—think two-hour lunches with multiple bottles of wine. But as novelist Emma Straub (who came here to research a book about an American family on holiday in the Mediterranean) and the Brooklyn family pictured here discovered, this Spanish island might just be the next great American family summer destination.







WE LANDED on Mallorca and took a taxi that circled around the bay, past shallow, clean beaches and a large sandstone Gothic cathedral. It was as if Palma—with 400,000 people, the island's largest city—was trying so hard to impress that she wanted to show off her best assets all at once.

After dropping our bags at our borrowed apartment, we set off on foot. February in Mallorca felt like October in New York—glorious sightseeing weather, where sandals and a light jacket are all you need. The sun shone overhead, and my husband and I happily joined the strolling masses in the city center, walking aimlessly, occasionally stopping for a snack and a coffee.

The city was awash in beautiful twenty-first-century juxtapositions—satellite dishes polka-dotted ancient terra-cotta rooftops, and decaying windmills sat beneath signs for fast-food restaurants. Expensive blue jeans hung on laundry lines crisscrossing the backs of apartment buildings. Palm trees swayed overhead. Everyone tip-tapped away on their cell phones. We sat at beach cafés that were closed for the winter, and enjoyed the breezes, trying to remember what year it was.

We had come to Mallorca so that I could do some research for my new novel. I'd decided it would be the location for my book, about an American family vacationing somewhere in the Mediterranean, almost completely blindly: I had been sitting at my parents' kitchen table, flipping through atlases—should it be Sicily? Malta?—when my mother pulled out a photo album of her trip to Mallorca three years ago, and just like that, I knew I had my setting. Mallorca seemed to have everything I needed: mountains and beaches and local olive oil that looked good enough to drink. And now that I was here, I saw that it was true in real life as well: There were postcard vistas at every turn. This was my first time in Spain—I'd studied French in school and married an Italian-American, and so my European tourist days had been spent elsewhere—and I knew it was a funny introduction to the country, sort of like someone visiting Martha's Vineyard instead of New York City on their first trip to the United States.

The upside to my ignorance was that I had no preconceived notions other than about Mallorca's physical beauty. Almost no one I knew in the States had been here—beyond its association with the tennis player Rafael Nadal, the island was a blank slate, a place onto which they could project their own Mediterranean fantasies. For Europeans,

Previous page, from left: A rugged stretch of Mallorca's coast lies along the cliffs of Cap de Formentor; first settled by the Romans, Pollença, a town in the island's north, is famous for its 365-step stone stairway leading to the village chapel.



This page, from left: The daughters of New York boutique owner Liana Pai by the beach in the small town of Cala Sant Vicenç; Pai and family at sea. "One of the best things we did was to hire a wooden sailboat to take us to Cala Sant Vicenç and Cala Deià," says Pai. "We felt like we were in an old movie. Apparently, pirates used to hide in the caves and build tunnels to the land above."

YES, YOU CAN TAKE THE KIDS

Mallorca might not be the first place Americans think of for a family vacation . . . but generations of Europeans who have flocked there every summer can't be wrong. On a trip with her husband and two daughters, New York City boutique owner Liana Pai found it an ideal mix of sun, culture, and laid-back charm. We asked her to share her favorite places and family memories made along the way.

There aren't many other Americans (but your kids won't mind):

"When we're traveling, I try to expose my kids, Ima, 12, and Mica, 10, to as much foreign culture as possible. The other kids they met mostly spoke Spanish, Italian, or French. But they didn't get hung up on language barriers, and soon they were all just interacting."

Make the most of the landscape: "Mallorca's mountains are spectacular—take advantage of them by staying in a cliff-top hotel like the **Jumeirah Port Soller Hotel & Spa**. The beach is a ten-minute walk down, but there's a shuttle to take you uphill at day's end" (jumeirah.com; from \$360).

Rent a car: "You'll love walking the steep cobblestoned streets, but you'll want to be able to drive to tiny villages like Deià and Pollença to explore."

Don't spend all your time at the hotel: "The island has a real sense of family and tradition, and some of the best moments were watching locals just enjoying life. One night, we were having dinner at **Cala Barques**, a taverna right on Cala San Vicente Beach, next to a group of people who were having a big birthday party, drinking and singing Mallorcan songs. Mica and Ima joined right in—even though the songs were all in the local dialect."

You'll love the lo-fi life: "I think my kids are well

behaved, but it was great to see how all the European children sat quietly at family meals in restaurants—without any games or electronic devices. They were just eating and talking with their parents. Mealtimes there seems more formal and sacred."

Go gazpacho-crazy: "Mallorca is fairly sunny and hot in summer—daytime temperatures can reach 90—so I made it a point to try as many versions of gazpacho as possible. Spanish gazpacho is smoother than the American version, and I found my favorite at the **Son Brull Hotel & Spa** in Pollença" (sonbrull.com).

But leave room for paella: "Plan for at least one meal at **Sa Foradada**,

a restaurant famous for its paella, and which you can only access by sea. You can hire a little boat and swim to shore. Then you just walk up a short path to the restaurant, where the two kinds of paella—*mariscos* [seafood] and *mixto* [meat]—are cooked in cast-iron pans in the wood-burning ovens" (saforadada.com).

Find history lessons in unexpected places:

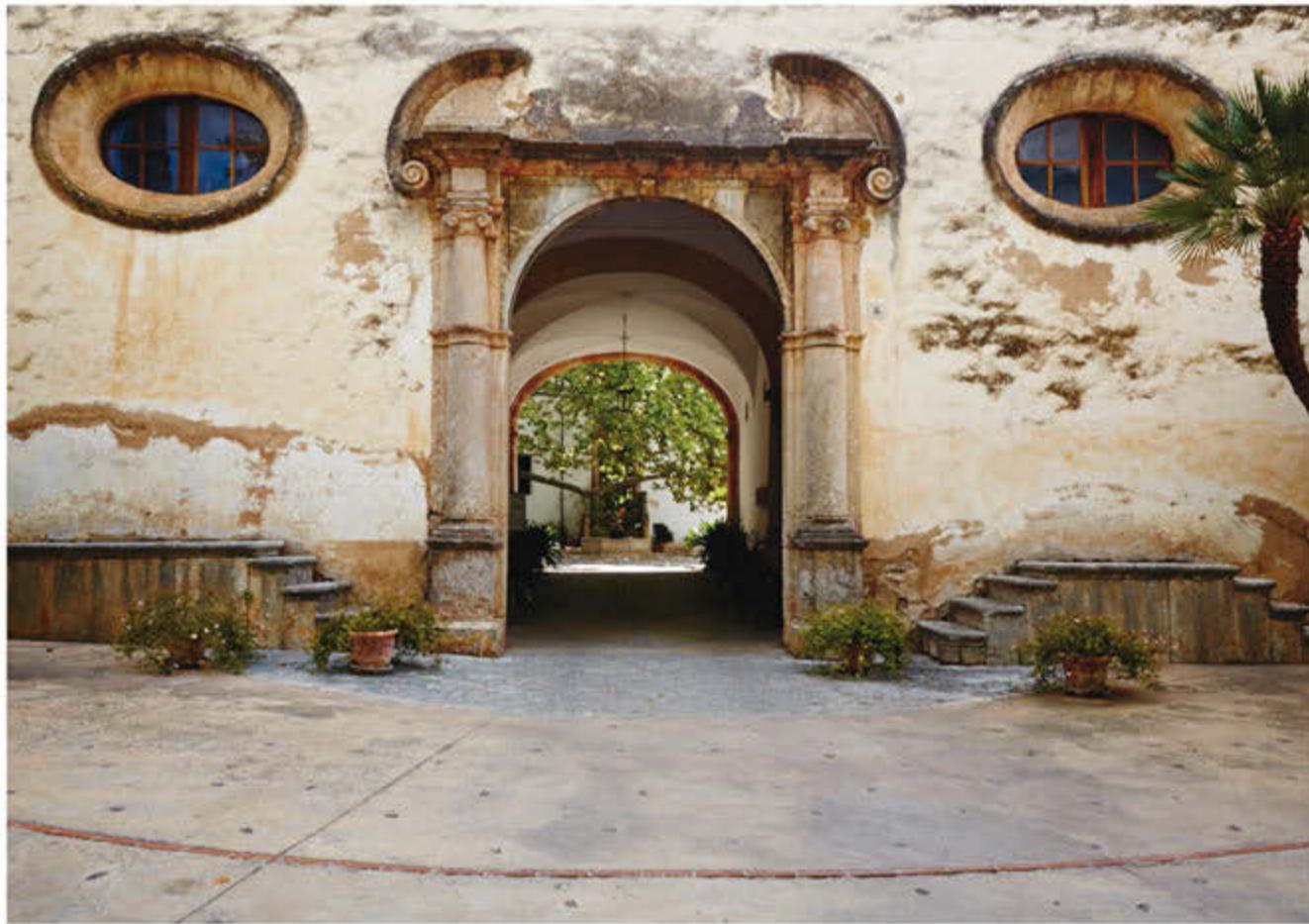
"Mallorca has a huge number of churches and a real sense of religious tradition. I enjoyed watching the girls take to things we don't normally do, such as lighting candles for someone they were thinking about. It was a way to discuss history and big concepts with them."



Above: The part-Gothic, part-Baroque manor house at the Alfabia Gardens, in Bunyola, opens onto courtyards and fountains.

Right: The island is famous for its vertiginous views—this one is of Cala Murta, on the way back from Torrent de Pareis. “One of the great things about Mallorca is that a lot of the restaurants are perched high on the cliffs, so you can see out over the sea,” says Pai.







Left, clockwise from top left:
Lighting candles in the fourteenth-century Puig de Maria Chapel in Pollença; the door of a small shop on the way to the chapel; the monumental entrance to the Alfàbia Gardens.

Above: At the Son Brull Hotel & Spa in Pollença, the terraces, swimming pools, and spa are surrounded by vineyards. "Some guests seem to stay at Son Brull for a week and never leave," says Pai. "We had to tear ourselves away to see more of the island."

however, the island is a cheap party spot (it's just a 50-minute flight from Barcelona), and Palma in fact has entire neighborhoods that feel like tiny Disneyland versions of both England and Germany, with signs written in their languages and pubs serving their native foods. But that, as I already knew, wasn't the real Mallorca at all.

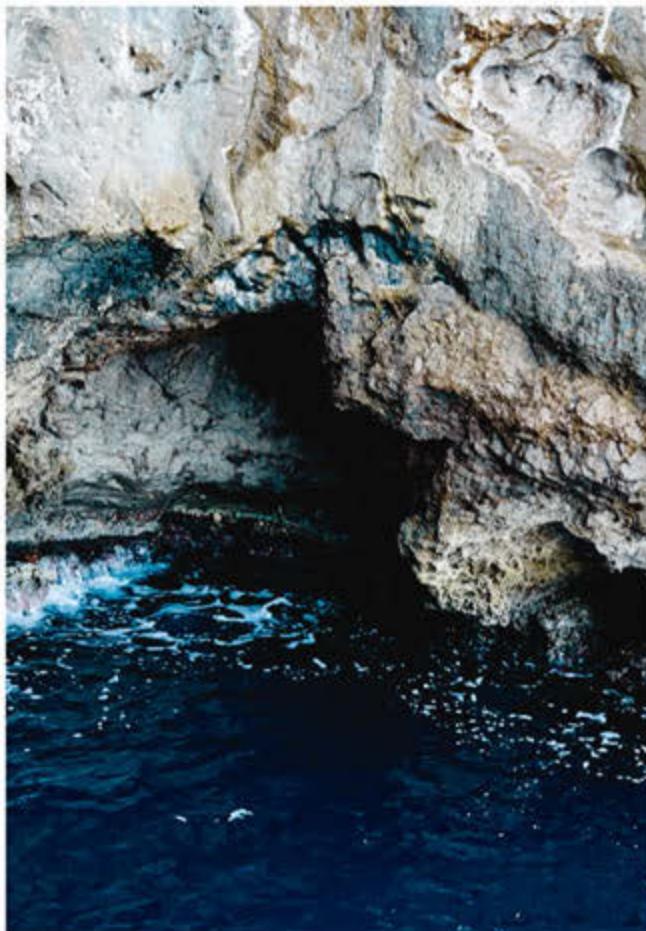
MALLORCA IS the largest of the Balearic Islands, yet even at the height of the summer season, it has fewer than a million residents. Its two mountain ranges mean that much of the island is a steep and somewhat daunting landscape, but its proximity to Spain had long made it something of a conquerors' dream; at some point, everyone—the Romans, the Vandals, the Moors—seems to have laid a claim.

We spent our days wandering, with no particular agenda. One day we took an excursion just outside town to the Joan Miró Museum, which was sunlit and modern, with large windows cut into the large white rooms. Miró's colorful artwork engaged directly with the succulents outside and the ocean in the distance. Almost every room had a view, but that's just how Mallorca is: generous and sun-splashed. One of the artist's studios is open to the public, with half-used tubes of paint lying uncapped on the table, and canvases still on the easels,

as if Miró had just stepped out to use the bathroom.

And then there was the snacking. I was pregnant at the time, and although that ruled out certain delicacies—the unpasteurized cheeses and cured meats, alas—we still walked in and out of grocery stores, markets, bakeries, and restaurants, never leaving without a nibble. On one market trip, I wrote down all the varieties of pork I saw in a single aisle: bacon, chorizo, mortadella, *sobrasada*, salami, *jamón Ibérico*, hot dogs, ham pizza, sausages, jerky-like meat in stick form. There were even ham-flavored potato chips. We went to tapas bars and ate mounds of slippery *pimientos de Padrón*, blistered green peppers. My husband fell in love with *pulpo*, octopus, and I with the most basic tapa of all, *pa amb oli*—just bread with olive oil. This is what Mallorcans understand deeply: If something is perfect, it needn't be fussy.

After three days in Palma, we drove in our tiny little rental car up the twisting mountain roads, both of us sure we were about to plummet to our death, especially when an enormous tour bus would zoom around a corner, suddenly turning the road into a two-lane highway. I was looking for a cozy spot I could use in the book, a pretty town within easy reach of Palma. We stayed a week at a pink hotel nestled into the side of a hill above the



town of Puigpuyent, where goats with bells around their necks roamed the hillside, attempting to nip at the garbage bags that were pinned to telephone poles over their heads. Enormous palm trees poked straight into the sky like leafy lollipops.

The Serra de Tramuntana Range is home to a string of Mallorca's most charming towns, and so once we'd had a few days of pure sloth, we set out to explore. Best known of these are the hilltop towns of Deià and Valldemossa, with tiered little farms leading up to their quaint cobblestoned streets. I'd read George Sand's searing *Winter in Majorca*, in which she complains bitterly about the island and its inhabitants during the time (1838–39) she and Frédéric Chopin lived in a monastery in Valldemossa, but we found it charming, especially the coffee shops selling *ensaimadas*, the local Mallorcan pastry that is the love child of a croissant and a palmier, and which was more than enough to make us swoon.

Later, we drove just a bit farther on those twisting roads to the white stucco house in Deià where the poet and author Robert Graves lived from 1929 until his death in 1985. It was quiet when we arrived, and we were shown around the house and gardens by Graves's son and daughter-in-law, though they did not identify themselves as such.

When we left, they presented us with an orange from the garden. Afterward, we drove down a steep mountain to Caia Deià, the hidden beach just opposite Graves's house. We had the place to ourselves, and with the clear, cool water and the sun on the rocks, we felt like the last, luckiest people on earth.

And it was here, in Deià, that my husband and I found the real Mallorca, the most authentic and beautiful face of it. After lunch, we were walking around town, up and down tiny, hilly streets, when we came upon a crowd outside a small building—the city hall. The narrow street was packed with people, some dressed up but most not. A short, balding man stood on the steps of city hall and spoke to the assembled people. A beaming woman in a form-fitting dress and a flower garland stood at his side, and we realized that we had walked into a wedding party. Three cars were stopped, halted by the proceedings, and they all waited patiently while the bride threw the bouquet and embraced her friends. The couple got into a small car—the car that was blocking the street—and drove off, tin cans rattling behind them. Everyone waved, including us. We didn't understand a word anyone said, but we cried all the same. That night, the sky was lavender. ♦

Above, from left:
One of the many sea caves between Deià and Soller; garlic and peppers dry at a beach restaurant in Sa Foradada.

Right: The view down to the Belmond La Residencia Hotel, nestled between steep mountains and the small coastal village of Deià. "The scenery on the way back to the port through the Tramuntana Range was gorgeous," says Pai.

For more photographs of Mallorca, download our digital edition or visit cntraveler.com/mallorca.



Hitched

Photographs by Christopher Griffith / Produced by Matt Hranek



For most of the past century we've been infatuated by the look (or is it the idea?) of the Airstream, whose bullet shape and shiny stainless are synonymous with wanderlust itself. But now a whole new crop of smartly conceived, head-turning—and, dare we say, infinitely more comfortable—trailers, campers, pop-ups, and A-frames are practically begging us to renew our vows to the great American road trip.

Leave it to the Amish to create a camper with the finest interior woodwork and construction on the market. Headquartered in Sugarcreek, Ohio, **T@B** has earned a cult following for the old-fashioned quality and nostalgic look of its campers. After a two-year hiatus, the brand was resurrected in 2012 due to popular demand from a fan base that wanted the retro vibe, albeit with a few modern luxuries—flat screens, showers, and dishwashers, for starters. Think of it as glamping 2.0 (tab-rv.com; from \$14,900).





The **River Rim**—a sleek, retro-inspired teardrop-shaped camper with LED accent lights and bright, colorful trim—is the vintage Rolls-Royce of the field. A magnet for both hard-core aficionados and gawkers (who love its shiny patina and custom-built details), this one's not for retiring types: Anyone you pass will want to take a look (riverrimteardrops.com; from \$13,450).

Weighing in at a mere 900 pounds, the **MeerKat**—one of the lightest trailers on the market—is small enough to be pulled by a regular car (no SUV needed) and can fit easily into a suburban garage. But there's still room inside for a mini kitchen and icebox as well as two horizontal adults and a dog, making it perfect for weekend jaunts (littleguytrailers.com; from \$14,650).





Surfers, mountain bikers, and kayakers who want the ultimate off-roading experience gravitate to the **Little Guy Rough Rider**. Why? It's one of the only recreational vehicles that can go anywhere a four-wheel drive can, handling rocky, rutted terrain in pursuit of high-adrenaline adventures—especially when, like this one, it's tricked out with 15-inch mud tires (golittleguy.com; from \$10,353).

Aliners are the Transformers of the camper world—and the gold standard for families, since they easily sleep four people and offer more head space than other campers. It's simpler and faster than pitching a tent: The ingenious A-frame roof design pops up in 30 seconds and folds flat for easy towing (aliner.com; from \$9,200).





If this **Cricket Trailer** recalls a newfangled lunar lander, no surprise: The designer, Garrett Finney, used to work for NASA, creating habitation modules for the International Space Station. Finney is accustomed to packing a lot of stuff into small spaces—in this case, a stainless steel sink, refrigerator, and dining table (crickettrailer.com; from \$21,700).

Visit cntraveler.com/road-trips for more cross-country adventures and summer drives.



A Tale of Two Islands

Photographs by Ambroise Tézenas

Twenty-five years after the fall of the Wall, vestiges of Germany's divided past remain.

Two of the most potent—and unexpected—symbols are also the country's most beloved islands: Sylt, the former playground of West Germany's elite, and Rügen, the vacation spot of East Germany's party officials. Anna Winger goes time-traveling.





A

FEW YEARS ago, my older daughter came home from second grade and at dinner announced an amazing discovery. "There was a wall!" she said. My husband and I looked at each other. I'm American; he's German.

Both our girls were born in Germany, where I have lived and worked as a writer and photographer since 2002, and we had often wondered when, and how, to explain this country's history to them. "Where?" we asked. "Right here in Berlin! But people knocked it down with their hands," she explained. "And then everybody hugged."

Not bad for a seven-year-old. After all, this is complicated history. Twenty-five years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, tourists still walk the former border, trying to digest the contradictions and complexities that are the facts of the Cold War. And if they leave the capital and head into the countryside, history quickly gets confused by geography: The Wall was actually built around West Berlin, not around East Berlin, as many think, because West Berlin was in the middle of East Germany—it takes about 90 minutes to drive from West Berlin to the border of West Germany.

But as confused as many people remain about Berlin and its history, it is often one of their few points of reference for modern Germany. In reality, Germany is much more than Berlin or, for that

matter, any of its major cities or its much-visited Rhine Valley. The country, in fact, has miles of pristine, dune-decorated coastline, stretching along the North Sea to the west and along the Baltic Sea to the east. The two coasts, divided by Denmark, are very different in character. The North Sea side belonged to West Germany during the Cold War. It's known for its crashing waves, windy beaches, and surfing competitions. The Baltic coast, which was mostly on the East German side, is protected, calm, and cold—a bright-blue bay.

But the real surprise? The 50 islands that line both coasts. Two of the most beloved are Sylt, in the North Sea, and Rügen, in the Baltic. Both are accessible by train, which means you can leave Berlin in the morning and arrive at either island by lunchtime. Sylt and Rügen are only as far apart as, say, Cape Cod and Maine, but during the Wall's existence, they were divided by much more than distance. Sylt was in West Germany, Rügen in East, and each island became the prime vacation spot for its respective society's elite. Together, they tell as compelling a story about Germany's recent through-the-looking-glass history as Berlin itself—and reveal a side of the country relatively few outsiders have ever seen.

LONG BEFORE the Cold War, Sylt, a skinny crust of land seven miles out into the North Sea, was home to whaling captains, whose charming, thatched-roof houses, with their brick facades and painted

Previous page:
Cabana chairs
near Sylt's popular
beach restaurant
Buhne 16, on the
island's northern tip.

Below: A farmer
and his horse
near the town of
Tetzitz, on Rügen.
Right: The
painstakingly
restored Boldevitz
manor, on Rügen.







The striking chalk cliffs of Jasmund National Park, on Rügen.

Right: The dining room of chef Alessandro Pape's Restaurant Fährhaus, on Sylt.



wooden windows, still define the island's architecture. But after serving as a base for the German navy through two world wars, Sylt became a hangout for newly minted West German playboys. By the 1970s, their jet-set lifestyle—and Sylt itself—had become synonymous with capitalist excess.

Today, even schoolchildren can identify the island's shape on bumper stickers often seen decorating the rear of the latest Mercedes. And pretty much anyone can tell you about the "Whisky Mile" in Kampen, Sylt's flashiest town—home to Germany's most expensive real estate and to the legendary Sansibar, a kitted-out beach shack popular with German celebrities. There are so many vacation homes on Sylt and so few year-round residents (just 15,169 at last count) that the island recently closed its last obstetrics ward.

The first time I visited Sylt, I was expecting a kind of Euro-trash Martha's Vineyard. But the remarkable approach alone—on a causeway that traversed the Watt, a tidal mudflat which was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its unique biodiversity—made me wonder if Sylt is famous for all the wrong reasons. The feeling was confirmed over the course of the next few days, as I wandered barefoot in the mud among migrating birds, biked through purple-heathered dunes, had a sweat at one of the beach saunas, and watched the sun set over drinks at Sansibar.

Nearly every luxury brand, from Hermès to Cartier, has a shop on Sylt, an island one-third the size of Nantucket. But they are clustered together in Kampen—convenient for shopping enthusiasts and easily avoided by everyone else. There are also four Michelin stars distributed among a pack of hot-shot local chefs, led by Johannes King from the Sölring Hof, whose free-range lambs soak up the natural grassy flavors of the Watt. Another, Alessandro Pape of Restaurant Fährhaus, whose pier stood in for Martha's Vineyard in the film of *The Ghost Writer*—Roman Polanski was unable to travel to the United States—harvests the island's finest local sea salt.

Careful zoning means that much of the island remains pristine, shaped only by the forces of wind and sea. But it has also benefited from the foresight of its prominent residents. It takes a powerful imagination to turn a disused military base into a world-class golf resort, but Claudia Ebert, a transplanted mainlander who'd been vacationing on the island since she was a child, did just that. "It simply wasn't enough to come for a week of vacation here and there," she says. When the German government put the southern tip of

the island, a stretch of 28 abandoned barracks and a heating plant, up for sale, "I immediately had a vision of what could be done with this wonderful land." Plus, she was looking to make the island her permanent home: "Over the years, at the end of each visit I found it harder and harder to leave." Seven years later Ebert's passion project, the Budersand—Sylt's most luxurious hotel—perches like a sleek modernist ship at the exact point where the Watt meets the open ocean. "Now I leave Sylt for only a few weeks a year," she says. "And I am always happy to come back."

From top: Dornbusch Lighthouse on Hiddensee, a small, carless island a short ferry ride from Rügen; sandthorn berries grow wild on Rügen.



IF SYLT is so narrow that in some places you can see both bodies of water at the same time, on Rügen it's easy to forget that you're on an island at all. Germany's largest island is as round as Sylt is slim, and connected to the mainland by a causeway. Rügen has 357 miles of coastline—white sand beaches and dramatic chalk cliffs—and a fertile interior of flat farmland covered with wildflowers and criss-crossed with walking trails.

During Rügen's prewar heyday, there were hundreds of aristocratic estates on the island. The aristocrats were chased out by the Russians in 1945, and the island became the stomping ground of a very different kind of party people than those on Sylt: high-ranking Communist Party officials; members of the secret police, or Stasi; and East German luminaries—making it a

kind of Soviet version of the Hamptons. This new guard proceeded to burn down, abandon, or divide up the Victorian bath architecture of the seaside towns as well as the grand inland estates in favor of modern, modest, more practical—if way less attractive—dachas.

Last summer, I went to Rügen to discuss a television series set in 1980s Germany that I was working on with Eugen Ruge, an East German novelist whose acclaimed *In Times of Fading Light* tells the semi-autobiographical story of a Communist family's life in East Germany. I visited him at the dacha he inherited from his parents, who built the simple house themselves on a choice parcel of land they rented in the 1970s. Ruge, however, fed up with the lack of creative freedom in the East, escaped to West Germany in 1988. "I never expected to see my parents, let alone Rügen, again," he told me. "But then the Wall came down." Now he spends six months a year there writing.

I understand the appeal. Since my initial trip to the island, I have returned numerous times with my family. We like to stay at Boldevitz manor, an estate that has been returned to its original

ISLAND-HOPPING

From Sylt

At low tide, you can hike across seven to nine miles of mudflats (and yes, there's a long German word that means mudflat hiking, *Wattswandern*) from Föhr Island, near Sylt, to nearby Amrum Island. The Budersand Hotel can arrange a guide or a boat ride from Hörnum to get you to the island, where there are several small villages, including Nebel, with its thirteenth-century church and rows of thatched-roof Friesen houses, as well as plenty of wide, empty beaches—many of them designated *textilfrei*.

From Rügen

Take a 45-minute ferry trip or a 15-minute water taxi ride from the port of Schaprode, on Rügen, to the tiny car-free island of Hiddensee. Although this slip of an island is a mere 820 feet at its narrowest, it's home to some of Germany's most beautiful and expansive sandy beaches and has been a refuge for the nation's most famous intellectuals, such as Sigmund Freud and Thomas Mann. The quiet island is part of Boddenlandschaft National Park and is a protected breeding ground for a number of birds, including cranes and little terns. The best way to experience the wildlife is to take a guided walk around the island, offered June through September.





grandeur—and then some—by Alexandra von Wersebe. Born on the island in 1941, Von Wersebe went west with her mother and sister in 1945, leaving everything behind. But the very day the Wall came down, she got in her car and drove to Rügen to stake her claim. She and her sister spent years buying back their family's land, plus two adjoining estates, and converting the whole thing into a single working farm.

A former antiques dealer, Von Wersebe restored the property with painstaking care, from the murals by a contemporary of Caspar David Friedrich's that wrap the grand salon to the long Baroque garden and swimming pond depicted in those paintings. Now she lives there with her family. You can rent a beautiful apartment in the main house or one of the sweet thatched-roof cottages scattered around the estate, ride horses through the countryside during the day, and curl up in front of the fireplace in the evening. Von Wersebe is finally at peace—and at home. "The island is simply in my blood," she says. "I couldn't have stayed away."

Unlike Sylt, Rügen has only one Michelin star, at the restaurant Nixe. The island also has just one five-star hotel, the elegant Cerês, overlooking the town pier in Binz. But Cerês's excellent farm-to-table restaurant is still casual enough that you can bring the kids. And a weekend at

Boldevitz is surprisingly affordable, as is dinner at the Strandhalle Binz, a funky family-run place right on the beach whose specialty is *Ostseedorsch*, simply prepared Baltic cod baked with a potato crust. Does this mean they're still holding onto their Socialist roots on Rügen, while Sylt is an all-out celebration of capitalism? Maybe. But maybe not. Everywhere you go in Germany, you can find metaphors and monuments to history, vestiges of a divided past. Then there's Prora, Hitler's massive tourist complex on Rügen, which was created as part of the Nazi "Strength Through Joy" leisure program in 1936, and which is now being developed into seaside condos, as is the last of the military bases on Sylt: further proof that the whole country has emerged from its darkest chapters.

But perhaps because of their complicated history, Germans—both East and West—still tend toward realism. Even at the height of summer there is no guarantee of sunshine at German beaches, so the resorts are always designed for maximum coziness—*Gemütlichkeit*—suitable for any kind of weather. On my visits to Sylt and Rügen, dramatic skies only added to the contemplative atmosphere. That said, both islands claim more days of sunshine per year than anywhere else in Germany. Is it true? It doesn't matter. Into each life, a little rain—and I have never seen so many rainbows. ♦

Above: A little house on Hiddensee.
Right: The rolling heathered dunes north of Kampen, Sylt's main resort town.

For more photographs of Sylt and Rügen, download our digital edition or visit cntraveler.com/german-islands.



Polynesia—its fragrant air, its sparkling seas, its promise of languor—has been synonymous with paradise ever since Captain Cook plied its waters. Two and a half centuries later, one family learns that its charms (both expected and not) are still best seen in slow motion, preferably from the deck of a well-turned-out ship. By Priscilla Eakeley

Photographs by Keith King

Out of Time







FOR A TIME, cruising—the very thought of it—was not my thing. The world may be more than two-thirds water, but I am generally happier on terra firma: Give me a duffel with a few changes of clothes and a set of rental-car keys over the convenience of unpacking just once and a guide in every port.

But all of that changed when I was at last convinced by my husband to take a seven-night cruise aboard the M.S. *Paul Gauguin* through one of the most storied corners of the world: the Society Islands, so called not because they're a celebrity hangout (which they are) but rather in honor

of the Royal Society, which sponsored Captain Cook's expedition there in 1769. In the course of our leisurely 478-mile itinerary, we were to sail overnight to the "Garden Island" of Huahine, continue on to Paul Gauguin Cruises' private islet of Motu Mahana, then head to our westernmost destination, Bora Bora, before looping back to Moorea and returning to our starting point, Tahiti. An unexpected bonus: Tahiti was little more than eight hours from LAX—a nanosecond away compared with Bali or the Maldives.

It was February, cold and dark and damp back home in New Jersey, and as the *Paul Gauguin* drifted past motu after motu, lagoon after lagoon,

Previous page, from left: "There was nothing around us except blue water in every shade imaginable," says photographer Keith King, who recently sailed through the Cook and Society islands on the M.S. *Paul Gauguin* with his wife, Timory, and daughter, Tennessee, seen here in Port Bourayne; the view of Papetoai on Moorea.

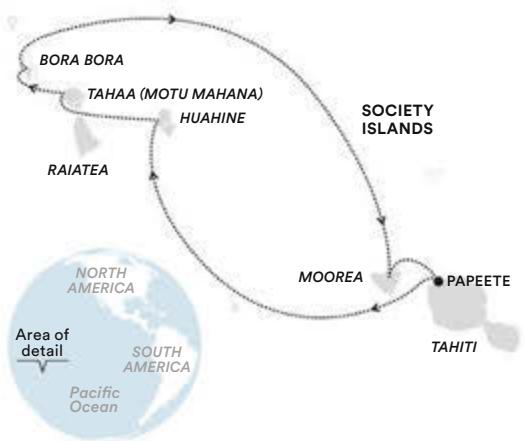


Above, from left:
Timory wears a
dress by Vera Wang
Collection (net-a-
porter.com; \$1,995)
while getting
Tennessee ready
for dinner; the cruise
turned out to be an
unexpectedly perfect
family vacation, with
plenty of activities
like shuffleboard
to keep Tennessee
busy. "She was the
only ten-year-old
on board, and the
entire crew knew her
name," says Timory.

the distractions both big and small that had been preoccupying me began to melt away, replaced by a focus on my surroundings and a sense of contentment I've rarely known. "It may seem contradictory," wrote James A. Michener in *Return to Paradise*, the 1951 sequel to his Pulitzer Prize-winning *Tales of the South Pacific*, "but in the languid tropics one spends more time contemplating those great good things of sound and sight and smell." And so it was with me.

Our first stop, Huahine—actually two islands separated by a small channel—derives its name from the Polynesian words for *female* and a certain part of her lower anatomy, and it's said to resemble

MAP BY HAISAM HUSSEIN





From left: Tevarii Mahuta, a member of the *Gauguin*'s dive crew; the bay at the InterContinental Tahiti Resort & Spa, glinting in the sunset. **Right:** The view of Moorea's Mont Mouaroa from the dive boat in Opunohu Bay.

a reclining woman when viewed from the sea. But you don't need to understand etymology to be seduced by the island. On a 4x4 tour of the mountainous landscape, we were greeted with riotous colors at every turn—lush jungle vegetation; scarlet and orange hibiscus; bougainvillea in myriad shades of pink and purple—and the air was thick with the scent of vanilla vines and tropical fruit. For centuries, the island's inhabitants would gather around *marae*—open-air coral-slab temples, many of which are still intact—to worship the gods, put on performances (Polynesian dancing was born on such platforms), and present human and animal sacrifices; that is, before the European missionaries put a damper on things in the mid-nineteenth century.

The next five days passed in a blur. We drank

rum from a coconut shell and were serenaded by the high-pitched twang of Tahitian ukuleles on Motu Mahana. We swam with stingrays and sharks and marveled at the fluorescent coral around Bora Bora. The majestic beauty of Moorea's sawtooth peaks unfolded around us on Belvedere Lookout, and it was worth every bruise to try windsurfing on choppy Opunohu Bay, Mount Rotui towering behind us.

But perhaps my favorite moment of the cruise was—as such moments are—also one of the most unexpected. A key figure in Polynesian creation myth is Rangi, or Father Sky, and I came to understand why. On one of our final nights, I was awakened at 2 A.M. by an attendant in *Paul Gauguin* attire, who, upon further inspection, turned out to be my husband. “You won’t regret this,” he said, peremptorily handing me another bathrobe and ushering me up on deck, where the firmament, with just a wisp of a moon, was awash in endless specks of light. The Southern Cross blazed directly above us, star clusters crowded each other out, and a band of haze had spread across the sky: Was that the Milky Way? I didn’t know, and it didn’t seem to matter.

So much has been made of the verdant scenery and turquoise lagoons in this Edenic part of the world, but, for me, that dazzling night sky shaped a creation story of my own—one that still leaves me breathless whenever I think of it. ♦

Seven-night sailings from \$3,995 per person (pgcruises.com).

Shipping Out

Four parts of the world that you can access only by boat—and the cruises that will get you there.

Greenland: Ponant's *L'Austral* sails from Reykjavík to Greenlandic ports like Ammassalik Fjord and Ilulissat (en.ponant.com; 13-night sailings from \$11,010 per person).

Lake Argentina's Glaciers: See the lake's Upsala and Spegazzini glaciers with **MarPatag Cruises** (crucerosmarpatag.com; two-night sailings from \$1,785 per person).

Norway: Hurtigruten's *Finnmarken* sails to the Lofoten Islands' painted fishing villages (hurtigruten.com; five-night sailings from \$1,026 per person).

Raja Ampat: This fall, Aman's three-suite *Amanira* will do five- to seven-night private charters to the Indonesian archipelago's hard-to-reach coral reefs and cays (amanresorts.com; from \$45,750 per cabin).

For more photos of Polynesia, download our digital edition or visit cntraveler.com/polynesia.





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TRAVEL INTEL

Tips, tricks, and miscellany: Our editors' guide to this month's destinations.



ESTATE OF RAY K. METZKER, COURTESY LAURENCE MILLER GALLERY, NEW YORK



92,777 Miles Logged in the Last 12 Months

Edie Rodriguez, the Los Angeles-based president of Crystal Cruises, on her high-seas vacation strategies, favorite airlines, and why she always has her passport handy.

My packing secret is I KEEP A DUPLICATE SET OF MAKEUP IN A TRAVEL BAG. THAT WAY, I DON'T HAVE TO THINK ABOUT BRINGING IT. AND I HAVE MY PASSPORT IN MY PURSE AT ALL TIMES, SO I CAN GO ANYWHERE, ANYTIME. My suitcase is A TUMI WHEELIE CARRY-ON. I usually fly AMERICAN AIRLINES-HAVE EXECUTIVE PLATINUM STATUS. BUT CATHAY PACIFIC, EMIRATES, AND SINGAPORE ARE DOING AN EXQUISITE JOB.

My advice for planning a cruise is ENLIST A TRAVEL AGENT. Best advice for travelers prone to seasickness? BOOK A MID-SHIP CABIN-THEY HAVE LESS MOVEMENT. The one place I always return to is ITALY. IN FACT, I'M IN THE PROCESS OF BUYING A HOME IN TUSCANY.

23 MILLION

The number of travelers expected to take a cruise this year, according to the Cruise Lines International Association. Companies such as Norwegian, Royal Caribbean, and Princess spent more than \$4 billion on 22 ships making their maiden voyage in 2015.

Ombudsman Double Trouble

Q My husband and I were traveling to Hawaii on American Airlines, and since it's a long flight we decided to spend an extra \$318 round-trip for Main Cabin Extra seats, with more legroom. When we checked in, American offered us the option to upgrade to first class on the outbound flight for a fee of about \$400, which we decided to do. But American never refunded the money we paid for the unused Main Cabin Extra seats on the outbound flight. Shouldn't they?

-Kathryn R., Mountain Center, Calif.

A Premium economy seating—including American's Main Cabin Extra, Delta's Comfort+, and United's Economy Plus—often comes with perks that are worth the extra cash, like more legroom, free snacks and drinks, and early boarding. Carriers have also embraced last-minute auctions of business-class seats, offering upgrades at check-in to fill spots that would otherwise go unused. But if you pay for one upgrade and then opt for another, you obviously shouldn't be double billed. Ombudsman contacted American, which said the couple should have been "automatically" refunded, and subsequently returned the \$159 they were owed.

Need help solving a travel problem? Ombudsman offers advice and mediation: E-mail ombudsman@cntraveler.com.



WOULD YOU EVER...

... Let Someone Else Pack for You?

It's the bane of every business traveler: You're on the road for the better part of a week, and when you're finally home, you're rushing to the dry cleaner so your suit can be ready before your next departure. Enter **DUFL**, a new online service that may end packing as we know it—and let you travel luggage-free. After you sign up, DUFL will ship you a large suitcase to fill with your go-to essentials: suits, shoes, toiletries, gym clothes. They'll store everything until your next trip. Then, you'll pack via the app (say, if a workout is unlikely, they won't pack your running shoes), and your DUFL luggage will be shipped directly to your hotel (within the United States). Upon checkout, print out a shipping label, leave your luggage with the front desk, and it'll be sent back to the warehouse, where your clothes are laundered, dry-cleaned, and stored—and ready for business (dufl.com; \$10 per month, plus \$99 per trip).



TAKE A NAP ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

Kammok's 24-ounce nylon Roo hammock comes packed in a super-portable six-inch pouch and has durable, tear-resistant straps and aluminum carabiners so you can hitch it to just about anything. Now all you have to do is find a couple of trees (kammok.com; \$128, including straps).

This Month's Top 5 Travel Tips from the Experts

1

See sharks up close in Mexico.

Whale shark season runs from June through September, so if you've ever dreamed of swimming with the world's largest fish, plan a trip to the Riviera Maya now. Meg Austin of the Travel Society says they're best seen on a guided daylong snorkeling tour with an outfitter like Underwater Expeditions (underwaterexpeditions.com.mx).

2

Go fishing out west.

The Middle Fork of the Salmon River in Idaho will be low this summer, says Danilo Bonilla of Mountain Travel Sobek—and this translates to "epic" rainbow trout fishing. Take advantage of someone's last-minute cancellation and you may be able to snag a spot on a guided late-summer expedition that was previously sold out.

3

Visit England this fall.

Summer is high season in the Cotswolds, the Lake District, and the New Forest, but these areas are just as beautiful in September and October, "before the weather turns for the worse," says Jonathan Epstein of Celebrated Experiences. That's when hotels like resort-y Chewton Glen and spa-centric Barnsley House offer shoulder season rates, too.

4

Explore today's Turkey.

The 2015 contemporary art-focused Istanbul Biennial will be held from September 5 through November 1 at venues along the Bosphorus. You'll also get excellent fall rates at hotels, says Earl Starkey of Sophisticated Travel, including at the new Raffles Istanbul and St. Regis Istanbul.

5

Score a deal on New Zealand.

If you've ever wanted to go, now's the time, says Jean-Michel Jefferson of Ahipara, "thanks to the strong U.S. dollar, which is up about ten percent." Jefferson suggests the bucolic Annandale resort, near Christchurch, and the restaurant at Olivers Lodge, outside Queenstown.

The Art of Distraction

Our editors share their secrets—homeopathic treatments, old-school games, the best use of the iPad—for surviving summer drives and long-haul flights with the kids.



LEGOS



HEADPHONES

"At some point in the flight, I'll break out a small **Lego** set as a surprise. Assembly time quiets fidgety limbs and buys you a half hour or so with a book. **Noise-canceling headphones** make it much easier for them—and you—to sleep."

—Editor in Chief Pilar Guzmán



IPAD

"Our daughter uses our **tablet** as an in-flight camera. She'll shoot quick videos while we board and settle into our seats or order drinks and snacks—she'll also shoot and try to identify clouds. After shooting and watching her footage, she'll delete it and start over. It makes the flight go very fast."

—Managing Editor
Carl Germann



LIU SHEN WAN

"At the slightest tinge of a sore throat, we give these traditional **Chinese herbs** to our daughter (or ourselves)—they work every time. Same with **Culing**—Chinese herbs that help with stomach issues." —Creative Director
Yolanda Edwards



UNO



MINI GIFTS

"**Uno** cards and **Mad Libs** are a no-brainer. I also buy and gift wrap tiny dime-store items like **Pez** dispensers or **mini Etch-a-Sketches**. The kids still get a thrill out of our little ritual—everything from the anticipation, to the unwrapping, to the actual playing."

—Features Editor Rebecca Misner

GOING UP?

The newly opened One World Observatory spans three floors—100, 101, and 102—near the top of New York City's One World Trade Center, which is the Western Hemisphere's tallest building. It is also, we should mention, *Condé Nast Traveler*'s HQ. Timed-entry tickets are required, so you'll have to specify date and time when you make your reservation—for example, August 8 at 1:30 P.M. Keep in mind that it's open until midnight and that the city—and that view—are just as magical, if not more so, at night (oneworldobservatory.com; \$32). For more on the best of Lower Manhattan—the cocktails, cheeseburgers, and croissants, and the great museums you didn't even know existed—check out our guide at cntraveler.com/wtc.

PRICE WARS

Cruise News We Approve of... and Some We're Not So Crazy About



Tauck will reduce its 2016 European river cruise prices because of the dollar's surge in value against the euro. Rates will be as much as nine percent lower.



Carnival Cruise Lines and Norwegian Cruise Line are testing room service charges of as much as \$8 for deliveries that had been free.

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Souvenir



Penny Savers

My husband first brought back one of these souvenir pennies from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida for our then two-year-old daughter. Ten years and 89 theme parks, seaside promenades, and even a rest stop on the New York State Thruway later, we have cemented an abiding tradition with our family collection: Whenever we see a penny-pressing machine, we head straight for it, no matter where we are—a ritual that has made us explore sites we would otherwise sidestep (Disneyland, the Madonna Inn, the Betsy Ross House) but which now hold a special place for all three of us. *—Yolanda Edwards*



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